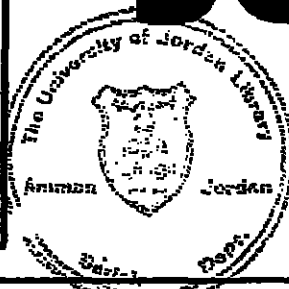


## Israelis wound 3 Arabs

TEL AVIV (AP) — Three Palestinians were wounded on Wednesday when Israeli troops in the occupied West Bank shot at them after they allegedly refused to stop at an army roadblock, the military command said. The command said the three men ignored orders to stop their car at the checkpoint in the northern part of the West Bank, next to an Israeli army base. Two of the Palestinians were wounded by shattered glass from the car window and the third was hit by a bullet in his back, said the command. All three were taken to a nearby hospital. Two Israelis were also slightly injured in the West Bank when stones were thrown at their vehicles. One of the Israelis was struck by flying glass when a stone was hurled at the bus he was riding in Nabulus. The other was hit by a stone as he was driving his car near the Dheisheh refugee camp on the outskirts of Bethlehem. In the occupied Gaza Strip, army bulldozers uprooted trees bordering the main road between Gaza City and Khan Younis, where stones have recently been thrown at passing Israeli vehicles, Israel Radio reported.



# Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Arab Press Foundation  
جوردان تايمز يومية سياسية مستقلة تصدرها المؤسسة الصحفية العربية

## Bank of Jordan names new chief

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Bank of Jordan's board of directors on Wednesday decided to appoint Mr. Tawfiq Shaker Fakhouri as board chairman to succeed Hosni Sido Al Kurdi who died last month. Mr. Fakhouri is a prominent private sector businessman. A bank spokesman said the board also appointed Mr. Maufud Abdul Qader, a former government official working for the Ministry of Finance, as vice-chairman and also appointed Mamdouh Abu Hassan and Dr. Ashraf Al Kurdi as board members. The board appointed Dr. Michael Marto as the bank's director-general. The late Mr. Kurdi had served as board chairman and manager general of the bank while Dr. Marto had held the post of deputy manager. The Bank of Jordan, rated as the ninth largest bank in the Kingdom, is the first Jordanian bank to separate the offices of chairman of the board of directors and director-general. Economists expected no change in the present policies of the bank with the latest changes and appointments.

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## New truce broken in 'camps war'

BEIRUT (R) — Shi'ite Muslim Amal militiamen and Palestinian fighters Wednesday broke a new truce agreed in Damascus to end Lebanon's bitter "camps war." The truce around five Palestinian refugee camps in Beirut and South Lebanon was due to take effect at 2200 GMT on Tuesday but failed to do so, Palestinian and Amal sources said. One person was killed and one wounded in the mainly Shi'ite suburbs around the Beirut camps on Wednesday, Amal sources said. Amal sources said the truce was made with the Palestine National Salvation Front (PNSF), a pro-Syrian coalition that does not include the forces of Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat.

## UNRWA staff move to E.Beirut

BEIRUT (R) — Foreigners working for the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestinian refugees (UNRWA) have been evacuated from west Beirut to the city's eastern sector, an UNRWA statement said. Wednesday. "Due to the general situation in the Beirut area, a small temporary office has been opened in east Beirut from which UNRWA's international staff will operate," it said. A spokeswoman told Reuters that eight foreigners now worked for UNRWA in Lebanon. She would not say how many of them were evacuated nor when the move took place.

## W.Germany holds 2 more Lebanese

FRANKFURT (AP) — Police have arrested two Lebanese nationals in connection with the discovery of a cache of explosives that bolstered suspicions of a possible Middle East extremist group based in West Germany, sources said Wednesday. The two men were taken into custody shortly after the arrests of two Lebanese brothers in West Germany, one of whom is a suspect in the hijacking of an American TWA airliner to Beirut in 1985. Security sources have indicated that the suspected group may include one brother, Mohammad Ali Hamadi, whose extradition from West Germany is being sought by U.S. officials in connection with the hijacking (See page 2).

## India and Pakistan sign accord

NEW DELHI (AP) — India and Pakistan signed an agreement late Wednesday to reverse military buildups along their common border by pulling back troops to peacetime positions. The two nations also pledged not to attack each other and exercise "maximum restraint and avoid all provocative actions along the border," officials said. The agreement was signed on the fifth day of negotiations between senior foreign and defence officials of the two nations in New Delhi.

## Israelis question Arab editors

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (R) — Israeli police have questioned four editors of an Islamic fundamentalist magazine published by Israeli Arabs in Galilee, police sources said Wednesday. The four were warned on Tuesday against incitement by the Al Sirat periodical but released without being charged, the sources said. The previous day, police raided the magazine's offices in the town of Umm Al Fahom and seized documents, they added.

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## Gemayel begins 3-day official visit

# King reaffirms support for Lebanese unity and sovereignty

By Salamah B. Ne'matt  
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Lebanese President Amin Gemayel held official talks with His Majesty King Hussein on Wednesday after arriving here on his first visit to the Kingdom since taking office in 1982.

During their talks, which centered on the situation in Lebanon, Arab and international issues, the King expressed Jordan's support for Lebanon's unity and sovereignty. "His Majesty confirmed Jordan's support for the unity of Lebanon, its land and people, and for achieving harmony that guaranteed Lebanon's sovereignty," the Jordan News Agency, Petra, said.

It said that President Gemayel, who is on a three-day visit, told the King he "appreciated Jordan's firm support of the Lebanese cause."

A senior Jordanian official who

described the talks as "excellent" said the two leaders "focused on the Lebanese political situation," but refused to give any details.

The official, who asked to remain anonymous, said that during the meeting, the issue of a Jordanian mediation between Mr. Gemayel and Syria "was not raised." He hinted, however, that the issue might be discussed in subsequent talks with the King in Amman, where the two leaders flew later on Wednesday.

The talks in Amman were attended by His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, Prime Minister Zaid Rifai, Royal Court Chief Marwan Qasem, Court

Minister Adnan Abu Odeh, Armed Forces Commander-in-Chief General Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker and Foreign Minister Taher Massi on the Jordanian side. Mr. Gemayel's adviser Ghassan Tweini and Lebanon's Ambassador to Jordan Pierre Ziadeh were also present.

Following the first round of talks at Al Nadwa Palace, the two leaders flew to Aqaba where they were expected to continue their discussions through Friday.

The King and Her Majesty Queen Noor earlier hosted a luncheon at Basman Palace in honor of the Lebanese president and his wife, Joyce. The banquet was attended by the delegation accompanying Mr. Gemayel and top Jordanian officials.

Earlier, the King received Mr. Gemayel at Al Nadwa Palace and bestowed on him the Hussein Ibn Ali Medal, the highest Jordanian decoration. King Hussein carries Lebanon's Cedar Sash of the first

(Continued on page 4)

## Soviets assail new Nevada blast and hint at resuming own tests

MOSCOW (Agencies) — The Soviet Union on Wednesday condemned the latest U.S. nuclear test as a provocation and strongly hinted it would soon resume its own testing programme after a pause of almost 18 months.

Reacting to the underground explosion on Tuesday at the U.S. Nevada test site, the official media said the administration of President Ronald Reagan was forcing the Soviet Union to carry out new tests in the interests of East bloc security.

"President Reagan was given the opportunity to decide whether silence would at last reign at the world's nuclear test sites or whether testing would be resumed with redoubled force," Moscow Radio said.

"By exploding a nuclear device in Nevada, the United States bid defiance to world public opinion and deliberately took a provocative step to frustrate the Soviet moratorium."

The Communist Party newspaper Pravda labelled the test an outrage carried out in defiance of warnings and popular opinion at a time when the Soviet Union

had refrained from conducting nuclear explosions for 547 days. Moscow, which began its unilateral nuclear test moratorium on Aug. 6, 1985, announced last December that it would resume testing after the first U.S. blast of 1987.

General Nikolai Chervov, head of the Soviet general staff's arms negotiation department, said Washington had forged ahead with the development of new strategic and space weapons during the freeze and warned of a risk of an American breakthrough.

The newspaper Sovetskaya Rossiya said Moscow's decision to resume nuclear testing was dictated exclusively by the security interests of the Soviet Union and its allies.

"This is a forced measure. More precisely, they are forcing us into it," the newspaper said.

The Kremlin, in accordance with past practice, is not expected to announce a date for resumed testing at the Soviet proving ground near Semipalatinsk in the central Asian Republic of Kazakhstan.

(Continued on page 4)

## Egypt to hold referendum to dissolve parliament

CAIRO (AP) — President Hosni Mubarak issued a decree on Wednesday calling for a national referendum to dissolve parliament.

The decree came about one month after new election laws were issued, and called on all voters to run the referendum next Thursday, Feb. 12. It said there would be no parliament meetings meanwhile.

Mr. Mubarak announced the decree after a cabinet meeting. "We found after the new law was issued that for political convenience the dissolution of parliament must be presented in a referendum," he said.

The amendments to Egypt's election code, approved by Mr. Mubarak on New Year's eve, had triggered questions as to the legitimacy of the present parliament.

The government, however, had insisted there was no need for polls before the body's term expires in 1988.

But legal experts had insisted that without fresh elections, any action the parliament now takes is open to legal challenge. That would include parliament's nomination next August of a new president of the republic.

## Waite was 'trapped'

BEIRUT (R) — British church envoy Terry Waite walked into a trap set by kidnappers who had been angered over what they regarded as unfulfilled assurances, a senior militia official said in west Beirut on Wednesday.

The official told Reuters that Mr. Waite was abducted by the captors of foreigners he sought to free because of assurances he was alleged to have given them in Kuwait for political violence there.

Mr. Waite vanished on Jan. 20, eight days after arriving in Beirut on a mission to secure the freedom of two Americans, a Briton and an Irishman. He has not been seen since.

The same official, who asked not to be named, said last week Mr. Waite had been kidnapped by hostage-takers after leaving his bodyguards behind at a secret, after-dark rendezvous near a Shi'ite Muslim doctor's clinic in west Beirut.

On Wednesday he said the kidnappers had set two conditions for a final face-to-face meeting with the Briton: It should be at night and Mr. Waite should not be accompanied by bodyguards provided by Walid Jumblatt's Druze-led Progressive Socialist Party (PSP).

"When Waite arrived (at the meeting place), the doctor received a phone call to go down to the hospital for an emergency case. The kidnappers were supposed to have met both Waite

and the doctor before taking Waite to meet the hostages," he said.

The official added: "Apparently the doctor asked Waite not to go, but wait or postpone it (the meeting). But Waite insisted on keeping the appointment. So they took Waite."

Political sources have said Mr. Waite's bodyguards remonstrated with the burly Briton and tried to stop him walking off alone. They say he refused to listen to his guards.

"It seems that Waite, in previous meetings, had given the kidnappers assurances from the Kuwait government regarding the 17 (Arab) prisoners," the militia official said. He did not elaborate on the alleged assurances.

"When the hostage-takers discovered the assurances were not accurate, they set up the last (Jan. 20) meeting, using the hostages as bait and saying their morale was low and they needed to see Waite."

Two of the American hostages whose release Mr. Waite has been trying to secure — journalist Terry Anderson and university dean Thomas Sutherland — are among hostages said to be held by the Islamic Jihad (holy war) organisation.

The group has made one of its demands for its foreign captives' freedom the release of 17 Arabs jailed in Kuwait for bomb attacks there in 1983.



Their Majesties King Hussein and Queen Noor receive Lebanese President Amin Gemayel and his wife Joyce upon their arrival in Amman on a three-day official visit on Wednesday.

## U.S. is continuing naval build-up in Mideast

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — The Pentagon is continuing to build up U.S. forces in the Middle East, moving a second marine amphibious force from Spain to the Mediterranean, officials say.

Robert Sims, chief Pentagon spokesman, said a Mediterranean amphibious ready group of about 1,900 Marines left Rota, Spain, early Tuesday, doubling the total number of U.S. Marines deployed in the Mediterranean.

Sims declined to pinpoint where the group was going, but sources who requested anonymity told AP it had been directed to sail eastward towards two aircraft carrier battle groups and another amphibious group already stationed in the area.

Over the past week, the Pentagon has marshalled a strong battle group in the Eastern Mediterranean in response to rising tensions in the Mideast and new hostage-taking in Lebanon.

The carriers USS John F. Kennedy and Nimitz and the original amphibious group of about 1,900 Marines were steaming around in the southeastern Mediterranean, south of Cyprus and relatively close to the coast of Lebanon, Pentagon sources told AP.

"Our movements of ships are cautionary in nature. It is prudent to do so given the increase in tensions in the area ... and to allow the president to examine the full range of options available to him," Sims told reporters.

He also announced that the U.S. aircraft carrier Kitty Hawk had moved into the Indian Ocean with nine escort ships within the past two days from the Philippines.

Sims would not comment further on deployments of the aircraft carriers Nimitz and Kennedy or the Kitty Hawk. But Pentagon officials said earlier they expected the Kitty Hawk to operate in the Northern Arabian Sea off Saudi Arabia.

The Kennedy is expected to dock in the Israeli port of Haifa on Friday, port sources said Wednesday.

They said the surprise port stop was arranged at short notice for the Kennedy, which had been due to return to the United States this week but was recalled to the area because of the mounting hostage crisis in Lebanon.

It was not known how long the warship would be staying in Haifa, about 100 kilometres south of Beirut.

Defence Department officials in Washington said the American naval presence in the Mediterranean increased to 25 warships and 10 support vessels on Tuesday, prompting speculation that President Reagan might order military action.

Israel Radio quoted Foreign Minister Shimon Peres as saying the massing of the U.S. naval force off the Lebanese coast was a strong hint to the Lebanese.

Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir said Monday night Israel had not been asked by the U.S. to provide any help regarding possible military action in Lebanon to free American hostages.

The Jerusalem Post newspaper wrote in an editorial that Washington was in a quandary over using force in Lebanon.

(Continued on page 4)

## Iraqi leaders review situation on southern front near Basra

U.S. confirms that initiative is now with Iraqis

BAGHDAD (Agencies) — Iraqi President Saddam Hussein presided over a five-hour meeting with his top commanders on Wednesday to review the situation on the southern Gulf war front where an Iranian cross-border thrust began more than three weeks ago.

The Iraqi News Agency (INA) gave no details of the meeting, which was attended by Defence Minister General Adnan Khairallah and State Minister of Military Affairs Abdul Jabbar Shanshal.

It followed an announcement four days ago by President Hussein that his troops had "broken the back" of Iran's latest Gulf war offensive, codenamed Karbala-5, in fighting near Iraq's second city of Basra.

Iraq has not reported any air attacks on Iranian cities for the past 24 hours, but a war communiqué said Tuesday its warplanes launched retaliatory raids on a dozen cities and towns after eight people were killed and 38 wounded in shelling attacks on Iraqi centres.

The Defence Ministry newspaper Al Qadisiya, the only daily with war correspondents at the warfront, carried no field report on battles east of Basra on Wednesday.

## PLO wants resolutions amended

TUNIS (Agencies) — The Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) will recognise U.N. Resolutions 242 and 338 on the Arab-Israeli conflict if they are amended to include the right of self-determination for the Palestinian people, a Palestinian leader said Tuesday night.

Hakim Balawi, the PLO's permanent representative in Tunis, also told reporters in a briefing at his home that the political dialogue between the PLO and Jordan would resume: "on a new basis."

That meeting, he said, will take place in Amman to define the "new basis," and comes after the recent meeting between His Majesty King Hussein and PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat in Kuwait during the Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC) summit.

Informed sources said in Amman that Khalil Al Wazir, deputy military commander of the PLO, was expected to arrive in Amman on Saturday to attend meetings of the joint Jordanian-Palestinian committee to support the steadfastness of the Palestinian people living in the occupied territories.

Mr. Wazir heads the Palestinian side in the committee. Mr. Wazir arrived in Algiers from Libya on Wednesday after meeting Libyan leader Colonel Muammar Qadhafi. In Algiers, he is expected to attend a reconciliation meeting with PLO factions opposed to Mr. Arafat.

AP reported on Wednesday that Mr. Wazir's talks with Col. Qadhafi focused on means to end a four-year feud between the Libyan leader and the PLO.

Mr. Wazir was reached by telephone in Tripoli from Cyprus and told AP that he and Col. Qadhafi met for 4½ hours Tuesday.

"The atmosphere was excellent," he said.

He told AP that he discussed with Col. Qadhafi a crackdown by Syrian-backed Shi'ite Lebanese militiamen against Palestinian refugee camps in Lebanon.

(Continued on page 4)



Their Majesties King Hussein and Queen Noor receive Lebanese President Amin Gemayel and his wife Joyce upon their arrival in Amman on a three-day official visit on Wednesday.

## Reagan may testify before Congress on Iran scandal

U.S. confirms that initiative is now with Iraqis

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — The White House has left open the possibility that President Ronald Reagan will testify before Congress on the Iran arms scandal and says the departure of top aides is to be expected at this point in his presidency.

White House Communications Director Patrick Buchanan, who headed Mr. Reagan's speech-writing team and counselled him on how to package and promote his policies, Tuesday became the latest key staffer to quit.

His resignation came amid continuing controversy over the Iran-contra affair, which on Tuesday prompted the White House to suggest that Mr. Reagan might submit to questioning by Senate investigators.

Mr. Buchanan, who will return to private life on March 1, felt he could better influence the issues and politics of the 1988 presidential race "from a vantage point outside the White House," said new presidential spokesman Martin Fitzwater.

But his departure added to a Reagan staff turnover that in recent days has seen such well-known figures as presidential spokesman Larry Speakes and Political Director Mitch Daniels leave the White House.

In addition, William Casey's resignation as Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) director was announced Monday and Richard Perle, an assistant defence secretary who has provided the intel-

wounded in the fighting since Iranian forces crossed the border on Dec. 24 and drove towards Basra.

Defence Department officials, who asked not to be identified, said that a small force of three U.S. frigates and destroyers remained on station in the northern Gulf where they were sent last week to keep a close watch on the war.

Sims confirmed reports from the southern war front that the Iranian ground offensive had apparently stalled near Basra, but said that appeared to prompt more missile attacks, bombing raids and attacks on ships in the Gulf.

"This is a war of the cities, a war of attrition," he said.

In Bahrain, shipping sources quoted by news agencies said a Norwegian-owned tanker loaded with fuel oil from Kuwait was hit by a missile fired from an Iranian warship near the mouth of the Gulf Tuesday night.

Lloyd's shipping intelligence said two missiles were fired at the 44,834-gross-tonne Ambia Fortuna. One missed and the other hit the vessel's number one port

(Continued on page 4)

Something extra

in the Jordan Times

Don't miss Monday's paper



# Shultz links hostages to arrests in Germany

WASHINGTON (AP) — Secretary of State George Shultz has linked recent hostage-taking in Lebanon with the arrest in West Germany of the Hamadei brothers, one of whom is wanted in the United States as the alleged hijacker of a U.S. airliner.

Mr. Shultz was questioned at a meeting of the Senate Armed Services Committee.

"In my opinion, the recent hostage takings are directly related to the arrest of the Hamadei brothers in Germany, and not connected with any policy we may have followed of selling arms for hostages," he said.

Mr. Shultz did not distinguish between the kidnapping of Germans and of other nationalities. Critics of President Ronald Reagan's administration have called recent hostage-taking in Beirut the result of an administration effort to trade arms for hostages, despite an official U.S. policy against ransom. They argue that the increased prospect of getting arms or money has encouraged the kidnappers.

Mohammed Ali Hamadei, the alleged hijacker, was arrested at Frankfurt airport on Jan. 13. The U.S. government has been trying to get him extradited to stand trial in the United States.

His brother, Ali Abbas Hamadei, was arrested at the airport on Jan. 26. Attorney General Edwin Meese said Tuesday that the U.S. request that West Germany extradite Hamadei was going forward, but acknowledged that it may take longer than expected.

"It usually takes a considerable period of time. It is rare that this process would take less than two to four months," he told a news conference.

Mr. Meese said it was important that the extradition process go forward, despite the recent spate of kidnappings of Americans and West Germans in Beirut.

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## NEWS IN BRIEF

### Firms to ask for Gulf protection

BOMBAY (R) — A world shipping conference opening in Bombay Thursday will ask the United Nations to protect commercial vessels sailing through the Gulf where several have been attacked in the war between Iran and Iraq, delegates said. Marie Psimenos, director of the International Chamber of Commerce, said it was "deeply concerned over the fact that freedom of the sea is being denied to merchant ships using Gulf waters." There have been 11 confirmed attacks on shipping in the Gulf this year following about 100 strikes in which 52 crewmen were killed during 1986.

### British minister to visit S. Arabia

RIYADH (R) — British Defence Secretary George Younger will start an official visit to Saudi Arabia on Sunday for talks on military cooperation, the official Saudi Press Agency reported Wednesday. London and Riyadh signed a seven-billion-dollar agreement, Britain's largest export deal, in 1985 for 132 aircraft, including 72 Tornados. Diplomatic sources said Younger's talks with Saudi Defence Minister Prince Sultan bin Abdul Aziz would focus on a Saudi requirement for British companies to invest in the kingdom as part of the deal. The arrangement requires one-third of the value of a contract for technical goods and services to be reinvested in Saudi Arabia. The idea was first applied to a group of companies led by Boeing Corporation of the United States, which won a large contract to set up an early warning defence system in the kingdom.

### Polish minister holds talks in Tehran

TEHRAN (R) — Polish Foreign Minister Marian Orzechowski has started talks with Iranian officials in Tehran, the English-language daily Tehran Times said Wednesday. It said Orzechowski told Iranian Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati that Poland was keen to increase political and economic cooperation with Iran.

### Yamani seeks Swiss residence permit

CRANS-MONTANA, Switzerland (AP) — Former Saudi Oil Minister Sheikh Ahmad Zaki Yamani has applied for a Swiss residence permit to settle in this Valais ski resort, the Tribune De Geneve newspaper has reported. The newspaper, which gave no source for its report, said Yamani's application was likely to be approved by local authorities. It said Yamani's wife and five children already had a permit allowing them to live in Crans-Montana. It said the family owns an apartment in a chalet-type condominium at Crans-Montana. Yamani, who was made to quit his post last October, also is understood to own an apartment in the Lake Geneva city of Lausanne.

### Group urges ouster of Black Hebrews

TEL AVIV (R) — An Israeli parliamentary committee has called for the expulsion of the U.S.-founded Black Hebrew sect, whose 1,500 members claim to be ancestors of the Biblical Israelites, legislative sources have said. Knesset's Interior Committee made the recommendation to Acting Interior Minister Roni Milo, the sources said. According to Israeli law, he has three months to order the sect expelled or explain why he has not done so.

## Egypt on alert over W. German radioactive milk

CAIRO (R) — Egypt went on alert Wednesday to stop West German milk powder contaminated by nuclear radiation from the Soviet Chernobyl disaster entering the country.

The government stepped up radioactivity checks after a West German minister said Bonn had evidence that significant quantities of unspecified radioactive products had reached Egypt's main Mediterranean port of Alexandria.

The scare followed West German action to block the export of 3,000 tonnes of powdered milk from cows which grazed in fields spoiled by fallout from last April's Chernobyl accident when a damaged Soviet nuclear plant leaked radioactive clouds.

Egypt was reported to be the destination for the milk powder, but the Egyptian Health Ministry denied that any had entered or arrived in Alexandria.

A West German embassy spokesman said: "It has not been established that a consignment left Germany and arrived here."

Egypt's Supply Ministry, responsible for food security and imports of essential items, ordered ports to increase inspection of all foodstuffs.

Officials examined previously unquestioned import documents to see if a load had slipped through tight radioactivity checks imposed after Chernobyl.

The Foreign Ministry alerted other departments, ports and airports to make sure that any contaminated shipment did not enter the country, an official told Reuters.

"The Foreign Ministry is highly concerned about the issue," he said.

Egypt's ambassador in Bonn would tell West Germany that Cairo rejected entry of contaminated food whose sale was not authorised in that country and wanted any exports tested thoroughly.

Concern also focussed on the role of private traders in the case and a columnist in Cairo's main daily, Al-Ahram, urged the government to pinpoint those involved.

## Tehran 'to expel' American journalist

NICOSIA, Cyprus (Agencies) — Iran's prime minister said Wednesday that detained American journalist Gerald Seib will be expelled from Iran in the next two or three days.

Prime Minister Hussein Musavi, asked in a Tehran Radio interview why a foreign reporter recently had been detained, said the reporter was "engaged in certain investigations and collecting intelligence at the front."

"After being questioned, the issue has been clarified and I think he will be expelled from the country during the next two or three days," Mr. Musavi said over the radio, monitored in Nicosia.

Although Mr. Musavi did not mention Seib by name, he clearly was referring to the Wall Street Journal correspondent, whom the Iranian government detained last Saturday and accused of being a "spy of the Zionist regime."

Jim Fusilli, a spokesman for the journal, said he was aware of a report that Seib "has been or is being (released), but we know nothing further."

Seib, 30, was among 57 foreign journalists invited to Iran for a tour last week of the war front where Iran has been fighting Iraq since September 1980. He had been in Iran for 10 days when he was seized outside his hotel in Tehran.

In Washington, State Department spokeswoman Nancy Beck said Wednesday that she didn't know anything about reports of Seib being expelled. Another department spokesman, Charles Redman, said Tuesday that "the

United States had protested Seib's detention and demanded his release.

The Swiss embassy in Tehran, which has represented U.S. interests there since the 1979 Iranian revolution, refused Wednesday to comment on Seib's case.

Tehran Radio on Monday accused Seib of entering the country with a false passport disguised as a journalist.

Journal Chairman Warren H. Phillips called the detention a "dreadful mistake" and said Seib had been seized "without any cause at all."

Seib has been a journal reporter since 1978, and has covered the Middle East from Cairo since 1985.

The Wall Street Journal said Wednesday it had received confirmation that Seib will be expelled shortly.

James Fusilli, a spokesman for the newspaper, told Reuters: "We have gotten confirmation that the substance of press information is correct and that Jerry will be expelled shortly."

Fusilli said confirmation had come from the Iranian embassy, through the Swiss embassy.

U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz said Tuesday he hoped the detention of Seib was a mistake that would be rectified quickly.

"We are expressing our views to the government of Iran, to the Swiss (who represent U.S. interests in Tehran) and making our views known through other governments and sources of contact to have Mr. Seib freed and promptly," Mr. Shultz told the Senate Armed Services Committee.

## Sudan launches mediation bid in Chad conflict

KHARTOUM (R) — A senior Sudanese official flew to Libya Wednesday at the start of a four-day mission aimed at reaching a peaceful settlement to the 20-year-old conflict in Chad.

Sovereignty Council Member Ali Hassan Tajeddin told newsmen before he left that he planned to discuss with Libyan leader Muammar Qaddafi prospects for an end to the fighting in Chad "on the basis of good neighbourliness."

Mr. Tajeddin, in charge of African affairs at the five-man

council acting jointly as head of state, said he would return to Khartoum from Libya before heading on to Chad, Nigeria and Algeria.

Chad has accused Libya of backing rebels fighting against the French-backed government of President Hissene Habre in northern Chad. But Col. Qaddafi has denied he has troops in Chad.

Mr. Tajeddin told Reuters last week that Libya had agreed in principle to Sudanese efforts to mediate in the conflict.

## TV & RADIO

### JORDAN TELEVISION

Tel: 77111-19

15:30 ..... Koran  
15:50 ..... Programme review  
16:00 ..... Tom Sawyer  
16:20 ..... Children programmes  
16:40 ..... Huckleberry Finn  
17:00 ..... Local health programme  
17:20 ..... Tenside French  
17:40 ..... Local contests programme  
18:00 ..... News programme  
18:20 ..... News programme  
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### PROGRAMME ONE

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### PROGRAMME TWO

17:30 ..... Champs Elysees  
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### PROGRAMME THREE

17:30 ..... Champs Elysees  
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### PROGRAMME FOUR

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17:30 ..... Champs Elysees  
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### PROGRAMME SEVEN

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### PROGRAMME EIGHT

17:30 ..... Champs Elysees  
17:50 ..... News in French  
18:10 ..... La Vie des peuples  
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### PROGRAMME NINE

17:30 ..... Champs Elysees  
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### PROGRAMME TEN

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### PROGRAMME ELEVEN

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### PROGRAMME TWELVE

17:30 ..... Champs Elysees  
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### PROGRAMME THIRTEEN

17:30 ..... Champs Elysees  
17:50 ..... News in French  
18:10 ..... La Vie des peuples  
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### PROGRAMME FOURTEEN

17:30 ..... Champs Elysees  
17:50 ..... News in French  
18:10 ..... La Vie des peuples  
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### PROGRAMME FIFTEEN

17:30 ..... Champs Elysees  
17:50 ..... News in French  
18:10 ..... La Vie des peuples  
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### PROGRAMME SIXTEEN

17:30 ..... Champs Elysees  
17:50 ..... News in French  
18:10 ..... La Vie des peuples  
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### PROGRAMME SEVENTEEN

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### PROGRAMME EIGHTEEN

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### PROGRAMME NINETEEN

17:30 ..... Champs Elysees  
17:50 ..... News in French  
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### PROGRAMME TWENTY

17:30 ..... Champs Elysees  
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### PROGRAMME TWENTY-ONE

17:30 ..... Champs Elysees  
17:50 ..... News in French  
18:10 ..... La Vie des peuples  
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## Swareddahab visits cultural and scientific institutions

AMMAN (Petra) — Field Marshal Abdul Rahman Swareddahab, former head of the military council in Sudan, on Wednesday visited the Royal Academy for Islamic Civilisation Research (AI al Baith Foundation) and met its president Nassereddin Al Assad who briefed the visitor on the foundation's projects and programmes and its research on Islamic culture and science.

The foundation organises seminars and lectures on Islamic affairs and issues publications as well as conducting research related to Islamic and Arab culture and heritage. Dr. Assad explained. At the end of the visit Dr. Assad presented Marshal Swareddahab with the foundation's shield.

Later, Marshal Swareddahab visited the Royal Scientific Society (RSS) and met its president, Dr. Jawad Al Anani, who spoke about the RSS' development and programmes and its cooperation with public and private sectors in Jordan. Marshal Swareddahab toured the RSS and was briefed on



Field Marshal Abdul Rahman Swareddahab Wednesday visits the Royal Academy of Islamic Civilisation Research where he is briefed by Dr. Nassereddin Al Assad on its programme and activities (Petra photo)

the functions carried out by its different departments.

Afterwards, Marshal Swareddahab called at the Royal Jordanian Geographic Centre where he met with its director Ra'fat Majali and directors of different sections. He was briefed on the work being carried out at the centre.

The next stop on Marshal

## Ministry issues further instructions on employing non-Jordanian workers

AMMAN (Petra) — The Ministry of Labour and Social Development on Wednesday announced further instructions governing the employment of non-Jordanians in the country.

A ministry statement said that from now onwards no work permits will be issued to non-Jordanians seeking clerical, managerial, accountancy, typing, telex, secretarial, telephone operating, store keeping or interior decorating work or jobs as guards or messengers. The ministry statement said that Jordanian workers are now available to fill posts for all these types of jobs and that local manpower should be given a chance to handle such work.

According to the statement, a number of occupations can still be filled by non-Jordanians pro-

vided prior approval is obtained from the minister of labour. These jobs include those of a supervisory nature, technical jobs in all sectors except for trades and professions which cannot be taken up by Jordanians, and teaching. The statement made it clear that approval for work permits could be obtained if backed by a recommendation from the Civil Service Commission (CSC).

The statement, signed by Minister of Labour and Social Development Khaled Al Haj Hassan, appealed to all organisations and companies to cooperate with the Ministry of Labour in implementing these regulations and instructions. The minister also urged all Jordanians seeking jobs to apply through the Ministry of Labour's employment offices in the Kingdom.

## Major road projects to be implemented this year

AMMAN (Petra) — The Ministry of Public Works is in the process of issuing tenders for a number of main roads to be implemented in the Kingdom during 1987 at an overall cost of JD 60 million, Public Works Minister Mahmoud Al Hawamdeh announced on Wednesday.

Mr. Hawamdeh said that the projects will offer jobs to local engineers and workers and will stimulate economic activity in Jordan.

Giving details of the projects, the minister said that they include the Aqaba road, a 31-kilometre stretch of highway which will link Wadi Al Ytem with the southern coast of Aqaba, enabling lorries and other heavy traffic to avoid going through the main approaches to the Red Sea port.

Another project is the Na'our detour road, a four-lane six kilometre stretch of road extending from Marj Al Hamam to the

Dar Al Dawa'a factory and including four junctions and overpasses. According to the minister, two tenders will be announced later in the year to link the Marj Al Hamam road with the Sweimeh Dead Sea road in the Central Jordan Valley region.

He said the projects include the Irbid-Thaghat Asfour road near Jerash which has already been awarded to a consortium of local firms. Work on this 26-kilometre four lane highway will cost JD 6.5 million and is expected to start in the coming month, Mr. Hawamdeh added.

### Cement highway

Mr. Hawamdeh said that another road included in this year's plan is the Jafr-Al Azraq highway, and that a consortium of Indian contracting firms has been awarded the tender at a cost of JD 36 million. Work on the 180-kilometre road, he continued, is expected to begin in the coming two months. He explained that Jordan will be paying the Indian contracting firms partly through a barter transaction involving the export of Jordanian phosphates, potash and cement to India and partly in cash from the Jordanian treasury.

According to the minister, the 180-kilometre road project will use locally-produced cement from the former South Cement Company. He said approximately 250,000 tonnes of salt resistant cement will be used in constructing the road.

## Regional microwave link moves ahead

By Elia Nasrallah  
Jordan Times Staff Writer

AMMAN — Jordan and Egypt are taking practical steps towards implementing a major telecommunications project linking the two countries via Aqaba and Sinai.

Mr. Akef Harb, assistant director for operations at the Telecommunications Corporation (TCC), told the Jordan Times that work on the Jordanian side of the project, which has been going on for nearly two years, will be completed by the end of 1987.

The project inside Jordanian territory is expected to cost \$12 million and is to be covered by the treasury and the Kuwait-based Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development, Mr. Harb continued.

He said that the project, known as the Regional Microwave Transmission Project, was the subject of discussion between a team from the Egyptian Telecommunications Corporation and the TCC at a meeting held at the TCC headquarters on Wednesday. The talks covered technical

and engineering aspects and designs pertaining to the project.

The Egyptian team will remain here for one more week to hold more discussions on the project, Mr. Harb added.

According to TCC Director General Mohammad Shahed Ismail, the talks will pave the way for a general agreement on the implementation of the project now that the Egyptian side has decided to announce a tender for carrying out their part of the scheme within their territory in the near future. He said that the Egyptian side will carry out its part of the project after agreement is reached with the TCC on all technical aspects and other related matters.

Following the talks, Mr. Ismail stated that the TCC's part of the project entails linking the national telephone and television networks with those of Saudi Arabia and Egypt.

### Telephone links

Once the project is completed, it will enable Egypt to have telephone links through the Jordanian network to Iraq, Syria and Turkey and will boost Egyptian television broadcasts throughout the region, Mr. Ismail added.

The project will also enable Jordan to make use of the international submarine cable network that links South East Asia, the Mediterranean and Western Europe, extending between Singapore in the east and the French city of Marseille in the west, Mr. Ismail added.

This network, in turn, he said could later be linked with the American continent through a submarine cable.

### Relay stations

According to Mr. Harb, the TCC is building 11 relay stations between Amman and Aqaba in order to boost the microwave signals going to or coming from the south or to Egypt and Saudi Arabia. Once these stations are built and the project is operational, he said that towns such as Shobak and Qweira in the south will have better reception for television programmes.

## Newly-elected ICRC president meets Abu Qoura

AMMAN (Petra) — Chairman of the Jordan National Red Crescent Society (JNRCS) Ahmad Abu Qoura on Wednesday met the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) President Mr. Summaruga who arrived here on Tuesday. Discussions during the meeting focused on cooperation between the society and the ICRC and means of enforcing international humanitarian law.

Mr. Summaruga expressed his satisfaction and pleasure at the humanitarian activities being done by the JNRCS and its role in promoting international humanitarian law. Dr. Abu Qoura, who is also the chairman of the International Red Cross (ICRC)

Standing Commission, expressed hope that the ICRC would play a greater role in the enforcement and protection of international humanitarian law.

Mr. Summaruga was recently elected as ICRC president to succeed Mr. Alexander Hay whose term ends at the end of April.

The ICRC president is on a visit to Jordan as part of a tour of the region during which he will examine the activities of ICRC missions and will acquaint himself with the activities of Red Cross and Red Crescent societies in the region.

Mr. Summaruga is expected to end his visit to Jordan on Thursday.

## CAEU secretary to attend trade talks, Arab council meeting

AMMAN (Petra) — Secretary general of the Amman-based Council of Arab Economic Unity (CAEU), Mr. Mahdi Al Obeidi, Wednesday underlined the importance of building up an Arab Common Market which would be capable of promoting the free exchange of trade among Arab countries and increasing the effectiveness of the Arab nation's economy.

Mr. Obeidi urged Arab countries to work out a strategy in this respect and to implement the CAEU's principles and resolutions. His statement came on the eve of his departure for Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, where he will take part in a pan-Arab conference on

trade and will attend the 42nd meeting of the Arab Economic and Social Council to be held between Feb. 7 and 11.

The council's meeting is expected to tackle a number of economic issues of concern to Arab countries and the outcome of a pan-Arab trade conference. Mr. Obeidi said that the upcoming conference would be an important event and as it would be devoted to promoting trade and economic cooperation among Arab countries.

According to Mr. Obeidi, an exhibition of goods from all Arab countries will be held during the Riyadh meetings.

## RJ plane and personnel help Sudan with airline operations

AMMAN (J.T) — A delegation representing the Royal Jordanian Airline and headed by the carrier's director Mahmoud Balqaz recently visited Khartoum to discuss the implementation of an agreement on commercial cooperation between the national airline and Sudan Airways.

A Royal Jordanian spokesman said that an agreement reached between the two sides gives Royal Jordanian the right to base one of its TriStars in Khartoum to

operate certain international routes under Sudan Airways flight numbers and colours.

Also, he said, a team from Royal Jordanian — including cockpit and cabin crew, engineering, marketing and finance personnel — will be based in Khartoum to support the Sudanese national airline's operations and to cooperate with its management in upgrading the quality of services and modernisation.



**HIGH FASHION** — The magic and beauty of the Orient went on show Wednesday in a parade of spectacular fashion wear designed by Iraqi ceramicist Nuh Al Radi and dress designer Suha Al Bakri. The Baghdad-based couple have successfully combined a range of accessible clothes which are a clever mixture of Western fashion with traditional Iraqi designs. Former minister of culture, Mrs. Laila Sharaf gave the audience a welcoming speech at the outset of the show which was organised by Usrat Al-Tadammun Alejtima'i, a charitable society for the care of needy families. An audience of 400 ladies gathered at the Jordan Intercontinental Hotel for a glimpse of the new pieces on show. In the new line are pure goat hair "abayas" made of a fabric known as "Shan'w Shabak" with rainbow stripes as well as business and other wear — all using fabrics from Iraq (Photo by Yousef Al 'Allan)

## Foundation stone laid for private hospital in Jerash

JERASH (Petra) — The foundation stone for a 33-bed hospital to be named the Jerash National Hospital was laid on Wednesday. The new hospital will provide medical services of different specialisations with special care for children.

The estimated cost of the new hospital is JD 750,000, according to a spokesman for the proprietors.

Dr. Da'oud Hanania, director of the Armed Forces Royal

Medical Services, laid the foundation stone and made a brief speech in which he underlined the need for similar private hospitals to be built in Jerash district.

Dr. Hanania promised to help provide the new hospital with assistance and advice on matters related to medical and nursing staff and also the management of the new establishment.

Among those present at the ceremony were the mayor of Jerash and the district governor.

## NOTICE QUEEN ALIA HOSPITAL

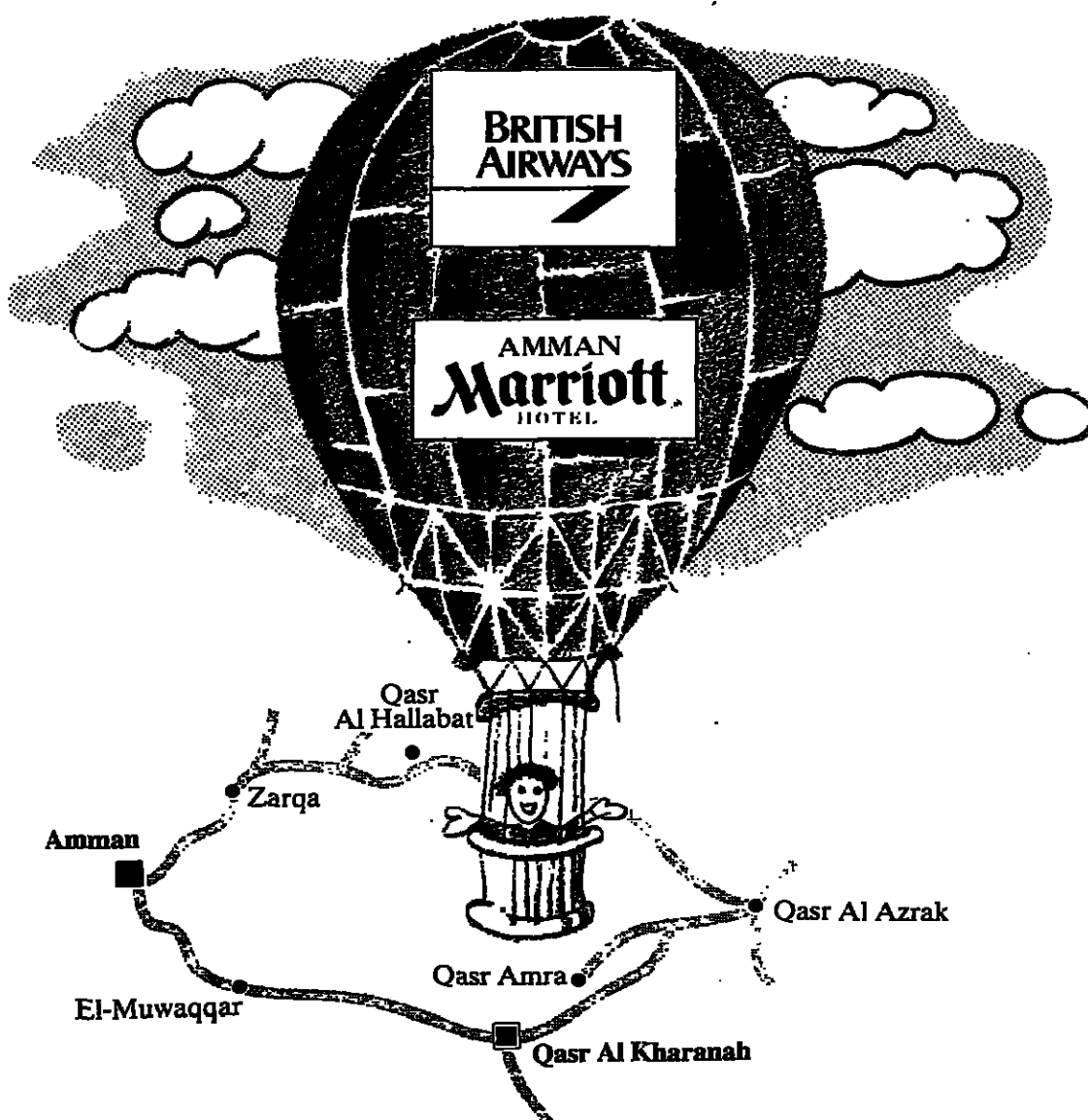
In answer to questions posed by a number of colleagues and citizens, the hospital administration would like to inform the public that The

### QUEEN ALIA HOSPITAL

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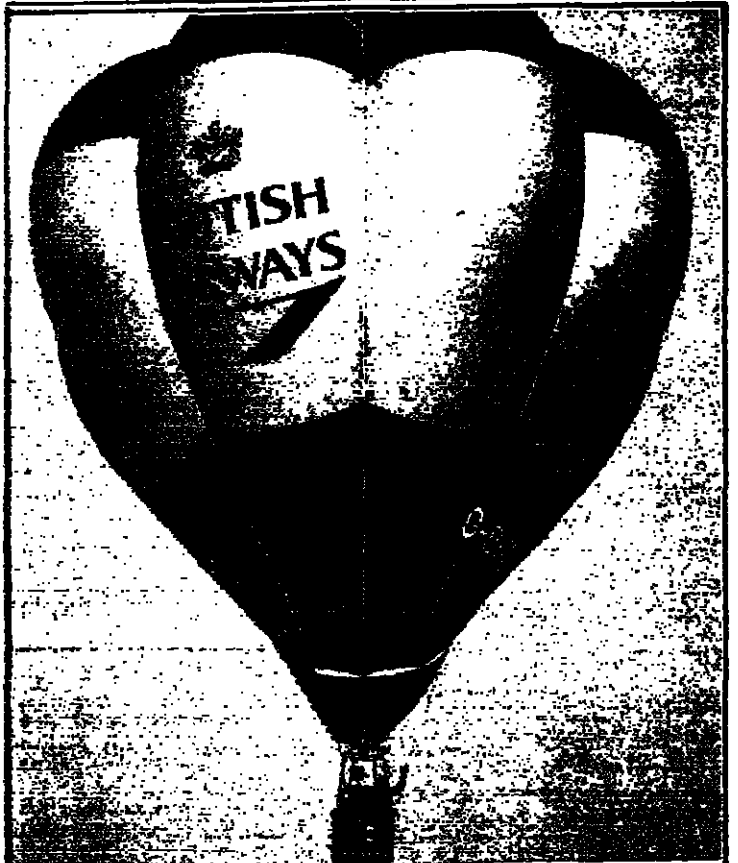
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# Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published in English by the Jordan Press Foundation. Established 1975

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## Lebanon deserves support

THERE is more than meets the eye in the American naval build-up in the Eastern Mediterranean and the Gulf. The deployment of over 25 U.S. warships some 25 miles from the Lebanese coast and an unknown number of other American naval units in Gulf waters may be seen as an open assertion of U.S. raw power in the Middle East. But the build-up must also be viewed against recent developments in the area and within the U.S. as well as the international arena.

In the case of Lebanon, the recent wave of kidnappings in the strife-torn country is certainly an ominous development which has to be kept in its proper perspective. The abduction of four more Americans has exacerbated the situation in Lebanon and heavily overtaxed the patience of the U.S. as well as the international community. We do certainly join the international community in condemning the capture and detention of innocent people, be they from the West or the East, and we share the sentiment of everyone that something meaningful and effective must be taken to free all hostages regardless of their nationality.

While we do sympathize with the U.S. in this critical situation, we also think that the flexing of American muscles in the region goes beyond the issue of hostages held in Lebanon. For one thing, deployment of naval forces cannot by itself assure the safety of the captives nor can it accelerate their release. On the contrary, muscle flexing could worsen their fate. We also realize that the motive behind the American demonstration of power is to send a message to the kidnappers that the killing of any American hostage would not go unanswered. Under certain circumstances, the threat to use power could accomplish the desired objective, but we think that such a logic would not work in the case of Lebanon, where the situation has deteriorated so badly that exercising a combined military-diplomatic option could not produce the results that one would hope for.

After more than ten years of continuous strife and the prolonged absence of law and order, we think the show of U.S. force would not accomplish the objectives which the American policy makers have in mind. The U.S. challenge is more likely to be counter-challenged by the splinter groups and factions which are holding the U.S. hostages. In addition, the offer by Israel to help any U.S. military interventionist moves will only make any U.S. attempt to liberate their nationals or punish the culprits, should they decide to execute any of their hostages, look that more suspicious. In fact the mere offer by Israel to intervene alongside the U.S. has already weakened the U.S. position on the hostage crisis.

We still maintain that the best and most effective way to tackle this and other problems in Lebanon is to help reestablish law and order in Lebanon by strengthening the national government in Lebanon in more than one way. Harmony between the various factions and ethnic groups in Lebanon must be reintroduced with vigour and determination. If the Lebanese armed groups have abdicated their collective responsibilities to end their quarrels, then there is cause to let the Arab World try more forcefully to stop the fighting and stabilise the situation in favour of a strong, united Lebanon.

President Amin Gemayel's current visit to Jordan and his talks with His Majesty King Hussein should be considered as a serious effort towards this goal. Jordan, which has always believed in and worked for closing Arab ranks in order to serve the Nation's higher interests and causes, wants peace and stability restored to Lebanon. His Majesty, the Jordanian government and people are committed and stand ready to assist the Lebanese government and people in their quest for achieving this aim. We are both confident and hopeful that the effort will bear fruit and that President Gemayel's visit to Jordan will be most successful.

### ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

#### Al Rai: Terror won't stop terror

THE kidnapping of innocent people and the bargaining over their fate is a condemned action in all form and measure; but putting an end to such action can never be done through invasion or strikes against civilian targets. An invasion can never secure the release of hostages but would rather lead to an escalation of tension and an eventual deterioration of the situation. Terrorism, conducted by nations, can never stop terrorism committed by groups or individuals. Therefore, the massing of American warships in the eastern Mediterranean and the escalation of tension in the whole Middle East region to pave the way for a strike on Lebanon under the pretext of freeing the hostages can never achieve positive results. Any American intervention in Lebanon can only result in further tragedies for the Lebanese people, and any indiscriminate shelling would aggravate the situation.

#### Al Dustour: Time for peace

LEBANESE President Amin Gemayel's visit to Jordan Wednesday comes amid very critical circumstances in the international arena and at a time when Lebanon is still plagued by civil strife. The situation in Lebanon requires concerted and sincere Arab efforts for helping the Lebanese people to reach a formula that can bring back peace to their country. Jordan for its part has always supported Lebanon's independence and looked forward towards seeing an end to the ordeal of the Lebanese people and their suffering and their tragedy. President Gemayel himself has been striving relentlessly towards re-establishing peace in his country and has been patient in his efforts and diligent in his endeavours, drawing admiration for his perseverance and fortitude. Mr. Gemayel has also drawn respect and appreciation from other Arab countries for his deep faith in Lebanon's affiliation to the Arab World, and indeed despite the on-going civil war and the tragedy the Lebanese people are going through, he has never given up his beliefs and his principles.

#### Sawt Al Shaab: Gemayel visits Jordan

THIS is the first visit to Jordan by Lebanese President Amin Gemayel. He comes to a country which has always been concerned with the on-going troubles in Lebanon and the tragedy befalling the Lebanese people. Lebanon has always had a special place in Jordanian people's hearts before and during the civil strife that has plagued the country for so long. Unfortunately, the Gemayel visit takes place as the war is still on in Lebanon, and as the American warships are threatening action in that country and the Palestinian refugee camps are being subjected to continuous attacks and shelling while the Lebanese economy is facing its most crucial moment in its history. Gemayel comes to Jordan and visits the King who was among the foremost Muslim leaders in Kuwait to call for safeguarding the independence of Lebanon and the country's territorial sovereignty, and urging Arabs and Muslims to help the Lebanese overcome their dilemma and their tragedy.

By Ian Mather

BAGHDAD — At a prisoner-of-war camp, near the town of Ramadi, 110 kilometres south-west of Baghdad, young Iranians swarmed around visiting journalists pleading for their photographs to be taken and copies sent to them so that they might be passed on to their families by the International Red Cross.

The camp, known as "PoW Camp No. 7," was inside a military base, and was surrounded by rolls of barbed wire, high fences and walls between which fierce-looking dogs roamed.

Next to the entrance stood a large mural showing a smiling President Saddam Hussein wearing a military helmet.

The camp commander, Major Ali Mustafa, said there were around 1,000 prisoners in the camp, most between 17 and 20 years old.

The majority were Basij, Iranian boy "volunteers" from schools and colleges who had been given a month's training

before being sent to the battlefield.

Some were only 14 years old when captured, and had been in the camp for up to six years. The section of the camp we were permitted to visit consisted of two double-storey blocks divided into dormitories. Each dormitory contained 34 clean mattresses along the walls and had a TV set at one end.

Prisoners' laundry hung from the balconies, and loud Persian music blared over the camp's loudspeaker system. A group of prisoners played football in the space between the blocks.

All the prisoners were well-dressed in T-shirts, khaki sweaters, jeans and training shoes or sandals. In the kitchen a team of prisoners was cooking an enormous vat of rice and lamb. There was a school in which prisoners were learning to type on new electric typewriters, a games room with table tennis and a handicraft room where prisoners were learning weaving.

The school, in which French

and English were taught, was run by Terre des Hommes, a Swiss charity which specialises in helping children who are in difficulty.

Michel Rod, who ran the school, said the charity had negotiated a teaching agreement with the Iraqis in 1985. When asked if he had similar access to other sections of the camp he replied cautiously "not exactly."

The section we visited contained only 140 prisoners, and was the only one with a school, we were told. There were indications of a more spartan regime in other sections. Behind the walls of another section broken windows could be glimpsed. There was no music, and at first no sign of any prisoners.

Then just as we were leaving a whistle was heard and figures could be seen scurrying from their rooms. An official explained that it was lunchtime.

Mustafa painted an idyllic picture of life in his camp. He said that prison commanders had received a personal message from Hussein ordering that Iranian

prisoners should be treated well. Iraq holds an estimated 12,000 Iranian prisoners, of whom around 800 are Basij. Iran holds at least 60,000 Iraqi prisoners. Mustafa said the prisoners received three meals a day and \$4.50 a month, "in accordance with the Geneva Convention."

They had constant hot water, and there was a doctor in the camp. The classes were voluntary. There was no political indoctrination. He said the International Red Cross made regular visits and brought letters from the prisoners' families and items such as spectacles. All prisoners were weighed by the IRC and any who were underweight received extra food.

Several of the prisoners needed no encouragement to denounce Ayatollah Khomeini. One, called Yacum, said, "Khomeini is a tool in the hands of the Americans and the Israelis. I have been here for six years and I know President Saddam Hussein keeps sending letters of peace to try to end the

war. If I were to speak about the criminal Khomeini I could go on for hours."

A young man whose left arm was missing explained that it had been amputated as the result of a motorcycle accident when he was 15, but that he had still been recruited into the army.

Several spoke in halting English they said they had learned in the camp school. Most grilled correspondents about how long they thought the war would last.

Major Mustafa said seven disabled POWs had been returned to Iran from his camp among 500 others returned within Iraq.

In addition, he claimed that 230 young prisoners aged between 13 and 15 had been sent to Turkey en route to Iran but had been returned to Iraq because

Iran said it did not have any prisoners of the same age.

"We believe these prisoners are human beings, not animals. We are not like the Iraqis who kill and injure prisoners-of-war," he said. "We have all read the Geneva Convention and received direct orders from the president to apply it. Those who do not are punished severely."

While it is clear that we were taken to see the most favourable conditions prevailing in Iraqi POW camps, the International Red Cross is granted regular access to all prisoners and it is likely that Iraq is eager to demonstrate that it treats its war prisoners in a civilised manner as part of its campaign to win international support for its efforts to end the war — London Observer.

## Israel to get a say on VOA broadcasts

By Bernard Josephs

minorities there."

TEL AVIV — The U.S. has pledged not to broadcast information that can damage Israeli or Jewish interests over the Voice of America relay station to be built in the Arava, it was revealed on Monday night.

Communications Ministry Director-General Yoram Alster said that a clause in the soon-to-be signed agreement for the building of the station allows for Israeli representations at the "highest possible level" if this undertaking is broken.

After two years of negotiations, details of the project were agreed Sunday by a ministerial team and VOA officials. The result will be a huge \$320 million relay station — the biggest of its kind in the world — that will allow VOA, Radio Free Europe and Radio Liberty broadcasts to reach the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe.

Unlike VOA, the other two radio stations broadcast programmes designed to undermine the Soviet regime. Walter Roberts, co-chairman of the American delegation here to discuss the project, was quoted Monday on Israel Radio's English news as saying their aim was "to strike at the soft underbelly of the Soviet Union — the Turkish and Muslim

Asked about this, Alster said Monday night: "I know this is something that people are thinking about. But even though we are not responsible for the broadcasts, we have a clause that means we can intervene in the case of our interests being harmed."

The clause reads that the U.S. broadcasts will not contain material that harms Israeli or Jewish interests.

If Israel feels that this principle has not been adhered to, it will inform the U.S. authorities. If the matter is still not resolved, it will be brought before the U.S. and Israeli governments at the highest possible level.

Alster said Israel had no intention of controlling or inspecting broadcast material before it was transmitted. "We have the U.S. undertaking and have no reason to believe it will be necessary to invoke the clause," he said.

As to Radio Free Europe and Radio Liberty, their participation in the project had been clear from the beginning, he added.

Now that most of the details of the transmitter agreement have been worked out, the final signing will take place either in Washington or in Tel Aviv within the next five weeks — The Jerusalem Post.

## Egypt set to get IMF help for ailing economy

By John Rogers

Reuters

CAIRO — Egypt, assured of Western political backing in tackling a \$38.6 billion foreign debt burden, looks set to win a rescheduling deal which should give its ailing economy crucial breathing space.

The spotlight turns on Egypt following the Western creditor governments' agreement in Paris last week to reschedule debts owed by Brazil and the Philippines.

Although prospects for Egypt's long-term economic health remain clouded, Western diplomatic and banking sources say the West has accepted its bid to be treated as a special case.

The key to Egypt's anticipated success is political. Western governments see a stable Egypt as vital to their Middle East interests and European security.

They want Egypt, the most populous Arab state, to undertake long-term economic reform but accept that risks of unrest and instability as a result of enforcing austerity outweigh gains.

The diplomatic and banking sources forecast an accord by mid-1987 on International Monetary Fund (IMF) standby credits of up to \$1 billion.

After an IMF accord now being negotiated in Cairo, the principle, if not detail, of rescheduling through the "Paris Club" of creditor governments will be a formality, they said.

The Paris Club, an informal gathering of Western governments, meets periodically in the French capital to discuss the rescheduling of government-backed debt.

Egypt sought IMF help and debt relief because a hump in servicing payments — totalling \$4.9 billion in fiscal 1985/86, which ended on June 30, and \$5.4 billion in 1986/87 — coincided with reduced hard cash earnings.

After a \$2.9 billion balance of payments deficit in 1984/85, Egypt received up to \$2 billion less last year from remittances by expatriate workers in the Gulf, oil and tourism.

The sources said the scale of debt relief was not yet certain, but Cairo wanted 100 per cent rescheduling, with a five-year grace period and five years or more for repayment.

"They are seeking more generous terms than the Paris Club has normally given and they look likely to get it," one source said.

Another forecast rescheduling of \$1.5 to \$2 billion a year in interest and principal over four or

five years.

Egypt's debt burden comprises \$33.8 billion in medium and long-term public or government-guaranteed debt and \$4.8 billion in short-term debt.

Its annual debt servicing was manageable until five years ago, the sources said. But then it began to mount — to \$3.7 billion in 1981/82 and \$4.6 billion in 1983/84 — as grace periods ran out on concessional loans from the 1970s.

Cairo is not servicing loans from Arab states before 1979, when most Arab countries severed diplomatic ties with Egypt after it signed a U.S.-brokered peace treaty with Israel.

This slices about \$1.5 billion a year off the annual burden during the present payments hump, the sources said.

The United States, Egypt's biggest creditor, is owed \$9.8 billion, nearly half of it for past military sales.

Cairo was a major force pushing Washington to offer relief to 38 Third World military debtors last month. But President Hosni Mubarak rejected the terms, accusing Washington of not doing enough to help a major Arab ally.

The question of military debt is still under discussion, U.S. offi-

cials said.

In recent talks in Britain, France, Italy and West Germany, Mubarak argued that Egypt needed the best possible IMF terms.

"The Egyptians have very successfully persuaded everybody to forget about the economics and have made it a political exercise at the highest level," one Western official said.

Economists and diplomatic sources believe that a deal with the IMF may involve balance of payments support in return for Egypt slowly unifying its multi-tiered exchange rate system and continuing a policy of gradually raising prices of subsidised goods and services.

Mubarak says Egypt is committed to reform, but not on terms dictated from outside. The government has set its sights on cautious, gradual changes.

Long-term economic prospects remain uncertain, depending in part on the price of oil, Egypt's main export.

Tourism is recovering from last year's doldrums and, so long as Egypt is not blighted by Middle East violence, should return to earning about \$1 billion a year. Suez Canal income is expected to remain stable at around the same figure.

## Gemayel begins three-day visit to Jordan

(Continued from page 1)

order.

The King met with the Lebanese president during last week's Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC) summit in Kuwait. The King called in a speech to the summit for concerted Arab efforts to end the senseless strife in Lebanon and urged national reconciliation.

At the fringes of the conference, the King and Mr. Gemayel also held separate informal talks with Syrian President Hafiz Al Assad and other Arab leaders.

Jordan has been involved in Arab efforts to end Lebanon's "camps war" between Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) fighters and Lebanese Shi'ite militias. It attended an Arab League foreign ministers' conference in Tunis in December which led to the creation of a seven-nation committee charged with

finding an end to the fighting.

A Lebanese official was quoted by AP in a dispatch from Beirut on Wednesday said that Mr. Gemayel was visiting Jordan to seek the King's help in "sorting out differences with Syria."

The differences between Mr. Gemayel and Syria, according to the unnamed official, "focus on the political reforms to the Lebanese (political) system."

A Lebanese task team left Beirut for Damascus on Wednesday to discuss the possibility of convening a summit meeting between Mr. Gemayel and Mr. Assad who have not met officially since December 1985.

Muslim and leftist factions in Lebanon demand political reforms to end the 11-year-old civil war. Such reforms include limiting the authorities of the president who, according to unwritten tradition, has been a Christian Maronite since Lebanon's inde-

pendence from France in 1943.

Jordan closed its embassy in Beirut because of the continued violence there. Royal Jordanian, Jordan's national carrier, suspended flights to Lebanon in June, 1985 after a Jordanian airplane was hijacked into Beirut and blown up on the tarmac.

President and Mrs. Gemayel arrived in Amman after a brief stop in Cyprus. They flew by helicopter from east Beirut to Amman, where they boarded a Middle East Airlines (MEA) airplane to Amman. The King, Queen Noor and top officials received the presidential couple at the Amman military airport.

Beirut airport has been closed since Monday due to security risks. MEA had also suspended its flights into and from Beirut following a decision by aviation insurance companies to suspend their insurance coverage of Beirut flights.

## PLO wants amendments

(Continued from page 1)

Mr. Wazir quoted Col. Qadhafi as saying he believed the Palestinians should be allowed to "practice their right to armed struggle against Israel."

Arab press reports have said relations between Syrian President Hafiz Assad and Col. Qadhafi have soured because of the "camps war" in Lebanon.

Mr. Wazir said Col. Qadhafi pledged to "spare no effort" in the search for a settlement to the "camps war."

"Col. Qadhafi and Mr. Arafat have been at odds since Col. Qadhafi supported a Syrian-backed mutiny in the PLO in May 1983. The rebels sought to topple

Mr. Arafat.

Palestinian sources in Nicosia said the Wazir-Qadhafi meeting capped more than one month of secret contacts between PLO and Libyan officials.

Asked whether all differences were resolved, Mr. Wazir said: "There will be more meetings at the highest levels."

He would not say whether Mr. Arafat planned to visit Libya, but stressed that Col. Qadhafi "supports all moves for the reunification of the PLO."

He said the discussions also touched on the escalating war between Iran and Iraq and other Middle East issues.

## U.S. is continuing build-up

(Continued from page 1)

"America's trouble is that despite endless discussion of the issue, it has still not reached an internal consensus about the proper use of force in limited wars, particularly in the protracted war on terrorism."

"Clear targets — headquarters, training grounds and storage facilities of the various Shi'ite 'terrorist' groups — have been spotted by U.S. reconnaissance satellites in Lebanon... but experience has shown that the terrorists can easily move around, moving their hostages with them. They will not, in any case, be extirpated by

one massive blow," the Post said. In East Jerusalem, the daily Al Shaab said there should be a unified Arab stance to counter U.S. intentions.

The newspaper said: "We deem it necessary to establish a unified and effective Arab stance to face the American threats."

"Syria is particularly called upon to do so... but how can the Syrian rulers' talk of facing American threats be understood while they perpetrate massacres against our people in Lebanon?" Al Shaab said, referring to Syrian support for the Lebanese Amal Movement in its fight against PLO forces.

## Soviets assail Nevada test

(Continued from page 1)

"If testing is the tail and the level of arms is the dog, you don't want the tail wagging the dog."

In Geneva, a Soviet arms negotiator said Tuesday the Soviet Union would press its efforts to start talks on a nuclear test ban with the United States in spite of continued testing by Washington.

The official, Yury Vorontsov, told the 40-nation Geneva disarmament conference: "The American idea is to have military superiority," adding: "We do not want to be the first... but if they insist on the arms race, they will get it."

The U.S. nuclear tests are being used, according to non-government arms specialists, to develop new weapons for programmes including "Star Wars," known formally as the strategic defence initiative (SDI).

President Reagan met his top advisers on Tuesday on a proposal to deploy the first stage of the "Star Wars" anti-missile shield in the early 1990s.

The White House said no decision was made but Senate Republican leader Bob Dole said earlier that he believed Mr. Reagan supported the early deployment of SDI weapons.

## Iraqi leaders review situation on warfront

(Continued from page 1)

ballast tank.

No injuries were reported and the ship, flying the Bahamas flag, sailed under its own power to anchor off Dubai in the United Arab Emirates.

It was the 14th raid in a row attributed to Iran on shipping using Kuwaiti ports in apparent retaliation for Kuwait's backing for Iraq in the Gulf war.

The sources could not confirm a report from Lloyds that an Iranian tanker, Taftan, was attacked by Iraq off the Iranian coast on Sunday.

In Algiers, diplomatic sources said Tuesday that U.N. Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar and Algerian President Chadli Benjedid were believed to have discussed a possible new Algerian initiative to seek a political settlement in the Iran-Iraq

war.

The sources, quoted by AP, noted that several such previous efforts have failed.

Asked at a press conference what he was doing to end the Gulf war, Mr. Perez de Cuellar said: "I have no authority to impose peace. Only the political will of the five permanent members of the Security Council can do that."

In an interview published Tuesday in the Algerian government's Arabic language daily Ech Chaab (the People), Mr. Perez de Cuellar said he had proposed to both sides in the Gulf a possible starting point for discussing a political settlement.

Such a "platform" for discussing peace, he told Ech Chaab, included a ceasefire and prior agreement to spare civilian targets on both sides.

His proposals included an undertaking by both belligerents not to use chemical weapons, nor to attack any non-military or economic targets. He also suggested setting up an international commission to determine who started the war.

He said both sides seemed to accept the establishment of such a commission "in principle," but added:

"The work of such a commission will be very delicate, because it is not easy to determine who is an aggressor."

Mr. Perez de Cuellar later flew to Paris, for a three-day visit largely devoted to his effort to end the war. He was to meet Wednesday with Premier Jacques Chirac and Thursday with President Francois Mitterrand and Foreign Minister Jean-Bernard Raimond.

## JOB OPPORTUNITIES

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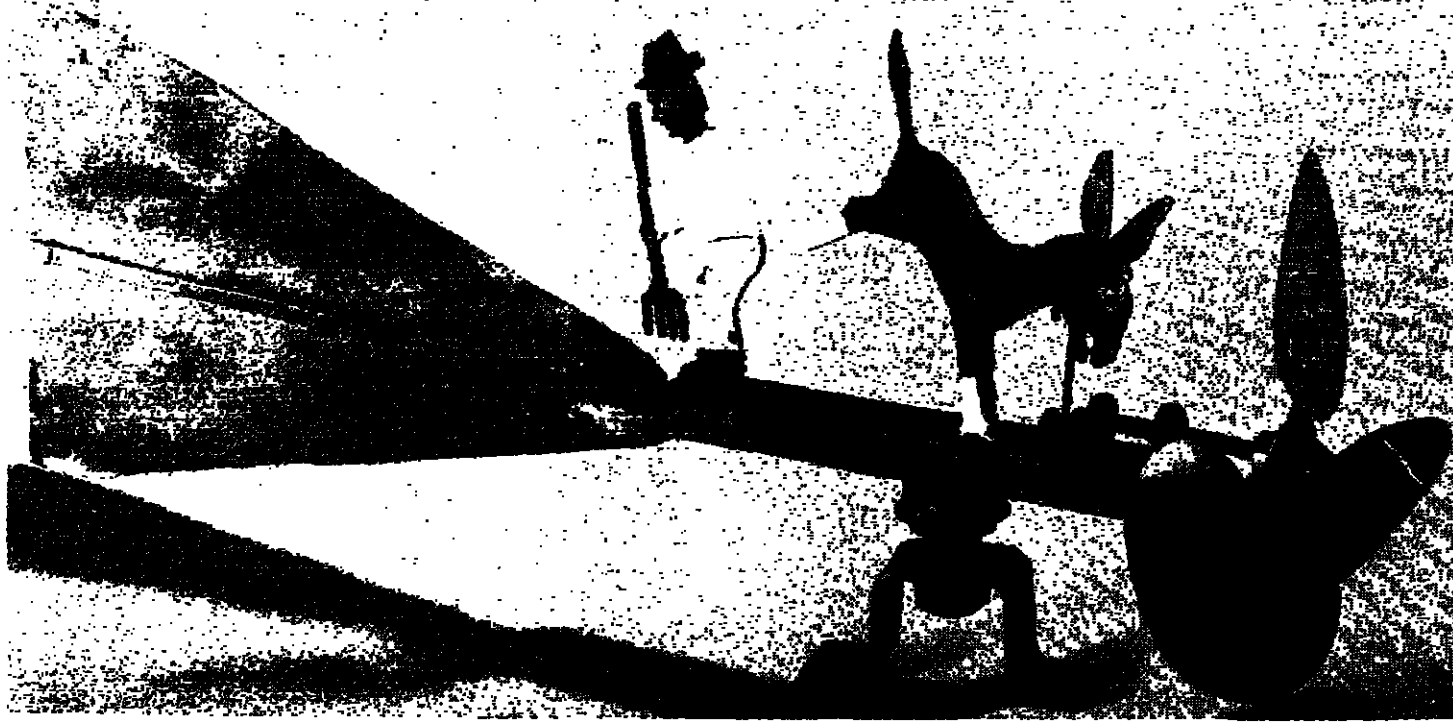
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## Exhibition gives insight into the life and times of Idaho

By Meg Abu Hamdan  
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — A major new exhibition, the largest ever brought to Jordan by the United States, opened at the Royal Cultural Centre this week. Entitled "Western Folk Art: The Crafts of Idaho," it comprises a riveting collection of everyday objects that have been meticulously made and beautifully decorated by hand.

Drawn from all over America's youngest states — Idaho has not yet celebrated its centennial — the objects which range from immensely colourful quilted rugs to spurs and saddles give a profound insight into the people of Idaho, their tremendous diversity

indicating some of the many backgrounds from which these people stem, while the different functions of the objects show their more recent and common frontier beginnings.

Well displayed and accompanied by a totally comprehensive and readable catalogue which explores the theme of the show in depth, the exhibition is divided into four categories. Transcending "region, material or group and showing the strong commonalities within Idaho's variety," the show opens with the section "Ceremony and Celebration." These objects made for religious ceremonies, and for the celebration of life's stages take "folk art beyond being pure objects of beauty to objects which can provide us with a deeper

understanding of the people who make and see the art."

Perhaps the most delicate of these objects are Eve Castellano's "coronas." Made for Mexican American girls throughout southern Idaho and eastern Oregon for the occasion of their 15th birthday, when they are begun to be considered women, these crowns of paper flowers dipped into melted wax are translucently fragile symbolising perfection, purity and innocence.

This section also features many very beautiful native American Indian crafts such as soft hide moccasins, leggings, belts and bags. Decorated with colourful bead work in traditional geometrical patterns, many of these have been made by the Shoshon-Bannock and Shoshon-Paiute Indians

(Above) the donkey's revenge is a common, broadly funny image in American culture and (right) a Basque picnic, Boise, 1933.

who still practise and teach the ancient Indian ways.

### Puppets

"Western Folk Art: The Crafts of Idaho" is an exhibition that will appeal to children as well as to adults. One of groups of objects that has to appeal to the younger audiences most is Gladys Bickelhaupt, Lucille Huston, Blanche Larraga and June Simmon's "Pumpkin Holes" figures. Almost life size, these animal puppets, smartly dressed and decked out with buttonholes and bouquets have been the main attraction at many a fair in Idaho. The first figure the group ever made was a purple cow which caused such mirth that from then on the ladies decided the main aim of the art had to be to make people laugh.

### Functional decoration for the home

The care taken over objects used to enhance their homes, as seen in the section "Beauty in the Home," indicates just how important home is in the lives of the people of Idaho. One of the favourite items the women liked to make and still do were quilts and rugs which were either objects of great function — the rag rugs kept the floors clean in the muddest weather — or they were hung as decorative elements. One of the most outstanding quilts on display is the "Log Cabin Quilt," whose creator is unknown. With its dazzling geometrical pattern, which pulsates between light and dark shades and colours, it is remarkable piece of craftsmanship that must have taken years to complete. Other fabulous pieces are the 1903 "Crazy Quilt" by Priscilla Mitchell Taylor and the beautiful "Trip Around the World" by Anona Sparks who is considered to be the local expert in quilting in Bennington, Bear Lake County.

One of the oldest pieces in the exhibition is the hand made chair. Made in the late 1870's by Thomas Nevins, its simple methods and materials — wood, hide, wire and nails — were used to produce quite sophisticated and attractive furniture.

Delicately carved spoons and cups, intricately embroidered table covers along with much else completes this section.

### Saddles

Two of the most spectacular objects in the whole exhibition are the western saddles. Featured in the section "Working on the



Land," these saddles, although still pristine in their perfection have in fact been used and used — a testimony to their durability and design. The more ornate of the two — an amazing piece whose leather has been tooled into elaborate floral designs, has been made by Dale Harwood who can execute "every part of saddlemaking from carving the wood from the tree to inlaying and engraving the silver rowels."

Although very highly decorated, Harwood's saddles are used by the hardworking cowboys of the state — the *buchavos* — a word derived, according to the catalogue from the Arabic word for cow — *baqara*. This means they have to be comfortable, functional and durable, qualities which Harwood learned to make by dismantling old tried and true versions.

As can be expected, a greater part of "Working on the Land" is given over too much equipment needed for ranching. There are bridles, ropes, reins, spurs and even branding irons and the old door on which the blacksmith used to test his final product. More unusually there are two Logger's helmets delicately engraved while Gerald Bebee's beautifully carved Grizzly Bear and Eagle demonstrate just how precise a chain saw can be in the hands of a master.

### Objects for pleasure

"Whimsy and Recreation" is the collective name given objects that have been made purely for pleasure. These objects mostly take the form of wooden carvings, but carvings with a difference. The majority of them have been carved from a single piece of wood and in such a way that makes them visual riddles — like a little wooden ball inside a wooden cage, and a wooden chain. The master of these "Whittlers," as they are known, has to be Vernon Shaffer who whittled nearly 24 feet of wooden chain from a 16 foot board as well as a perfect reproduction of scissors, pliers and fans — all done by only removing the wood.

Other delightful objects in this section, beside the lovely willow fishing basket by John Cook, are the duck decoys of Frank Werner. Immaculate in every detail, these decoys are so realistic you have to reach out and touch them just to make sure they are not going to fly away. Although many buy them as decoration for their homes these decoys are actually made to be used.

This wonderful exhibition full of surprises, fun, interest and beauty should not be missed before it moves on to Syria, Tunisia and Pakistan. The exhibition runs until February 10.



Dale Harwood Saddle, 1973

Randa Habib's Corner

## Epitaph to a directory

WHAT would you do if you were looking for the phone number of a company, a shop or even a doctor? The first thing to pop into your mind would certainly be to open the most recent telephone directory issued by the Telecommunications Corporation (TCC). In fact you would be shocked if you did just that as you would find it to be out of date — it was issued in 1983. But unfortunately, the 1983 edition is the directory's latest.

If, however, you decide to try the number you just dug out, someone on the other end may well say that you've dialled the wrong number or you may hear a voice repeating: "The number you called is not in use anymore, please check with information." So you decide to give it a try by dialling directory inquiries (12) but, alas, to no avail. For at least two or three minutes will pass before you realise that all you are going to get is frustration. However, if you are very fortunate someone may answer your call but only — as it has occurred on several occasions — to give you a wrong number. One wonders why the telephone directory is not periodically renewed with the introduction of fresh and clearly classified phone numbers every year. Undoubtedly, this would save time, effort and temper.

When this question was raised, one TCC official defended his department's reluctance not to reprint the directory on an annual basis because of unexpected and prompt changes in telephone numbers. Telephone numbers, the official added, have changed frequently over the past years.

Printing a new directory, the official maintains, could have been a waste of time, effort and money. While the official's argument may be partly true, still this does not justify the TCC's unfulfilled commitment; bearing in mind the subscription fees it collects from the public. Moreover, renewing the phone directory on an annual basis would be a profitable project since it will be sold to the public. The directory, by also carrying paid advertisements, will generate enough revenues to cover reimbursements and make a profit for the TCC. After all, how do they expect anybody to make a call with all the recent mixed-up numbers and additions. Local residents have already got used to memorising by heart the new changes and additions to phone numbers — numbers starting with eight should be preceded by nine, with four and five should be preceded by six and so forth. Now that the TCC is fully computerised, issuing a new phone directory should surely be no great feat.

## Sri Lanka's Tigers make bombs, grow mushrooms

By Marilyn Odchimar  
Reuters

JAFFNA, Sri Lanka — The Tiger rebels are making bombs, growing mushrooms and even constructing their own plane as they work to build a shadow government in Sri Lanka's northern peninsula of Jaffna.

Formed by a rag-tag band of 27 disgruntled youths in 1973, the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam were by mid-1985 able to push the military back to its camps.

Now the Tigers rule most of the peninsula.

They are the most powerful of the guerrilla groups fighting for a separate state for Sri Lanka's minority Tamil community. Their leaders, accompanied by teenage bodyguards clutching AK-47 rifles, walk around with impunity here, 320 kilometres north of the capital Colombo.

This was impossible in early 1985, when army convoys used to rumble through the dusty plain from the troops' main camp at the old Dutch-built fort in the heart of Jaffna town.

All roads leading to the fort are now blocked with tyres, sandbags, soil and, in one case, a high concrete wall.

The Tigers fight against mortar bombardments, helicopter gunships and Italian-made fighter bombers with home-made 150mm and 90mm mortar bombs and an array of imported weapons.

Balasubramaniam Canagaratnam, a rebel spokesman known by the nom de guerre of Rahim, said the weapons were more modern than those used by the military.

They include Belgian-made 60mm mortars, West German Heckler and Koch G3 A3 rifles and U.S. M16 rifles, some of which Rahim said were marked as U.S. army property.

"Anything can be bought in the open market abroad," he said. The Tigers have their own weapons factory too.

Two Czechoslovakian lathes and a Soviet-made mill churn out 50 mortar bombs and 100 gre-

nades a day. The prototype of a two-seater single-engine plane with a wingspan of about five metres is also being assembled.

"We'll try it by February and if it's successful, we will improve on it by putting a more powerful engine," said Kuganathputhan Yogaratnam, who supervises the factory.

Senior Sri Lankan military officials told Reuters they believed the Tigers had made chemical weapons from huge quantities of chlorine stolen last year from a warehouse in Paranthan, a town outside the peninsula.

The rebels administer civilian life in the peninsula through what they call public relations offices in each of 29 political divisions — equivalent to a village.

The offices supervise petty criminal and civil courts, collect taxes from shops and restaurants, license slaughter-houses and restaurants, and run farms.

The farms grow mushrooms and other vegetables and breed prawns, rabbits, pigs and poultry. The Tigers opened a mini-supermarket called Uthayam in Jaffna town recently and villages are to have similar stores.

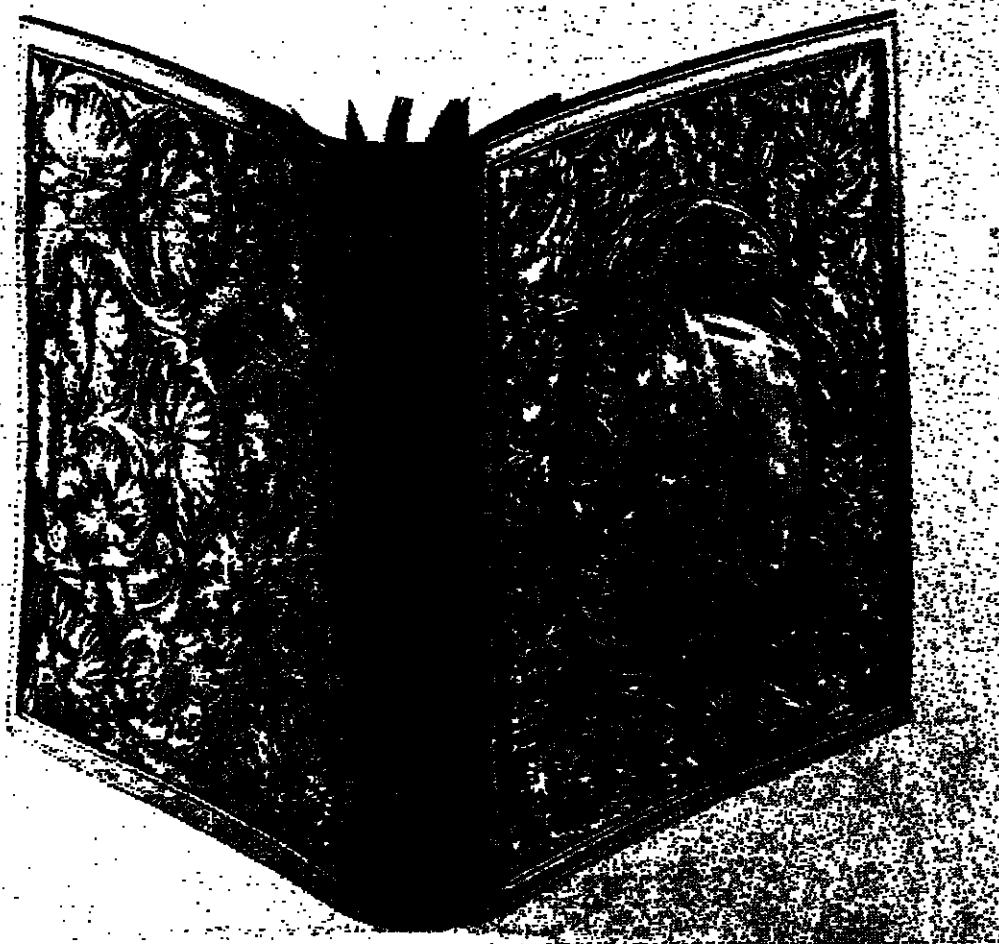
Uthayam sells soap, fruit juices, cooking oil, incense, plate stands and plastic chairs — products which Rahim said are made by Tiger-allied factories.

At night, children flock to a park-cum-zoo built by the rebels or browse at a library filled with Tiger and other revolutionary literature.

The Tigers have taken over the licensing of televisions, radios, cinemas and foreign employment agencies from the rival Eelam Peoples Revolutionary Liberation Front which they smashed in December.

Stamps will be issued this month. But plans for rebel-trained civilians to take charge of traffic were aborted after the government imposed a fuel embargo in January.

The embargo forced the Tigers to indefinitely postpone the inauguration of a secretariat that was to coordinate its offices.



Leather Album Cover, 1956

## 100-fathom dive to see coelacanth alive

By Wieland Schmitz  
Reuters

MUNICH, West Germany — The world's oldest surviving vertebrate, the coelacanth, has been observed for the first time in its natural habitat by a team of scientists working from a two-man submarine deep in the Indian Ocean.

The bony, prehistoric fish, which originated 350 million years ago and has hardly evolved since, was thought to have been extinct for at least 60 million years until the chance find of a live specimen on a fisherman's line in 1938.

But that fish, which soon died, and other examples found since have all ended up stuffed.

Now, nearly 50 years later, an expedition led by a member of the Max Planck Institute for Animal Behaviour near Munich has studied and filmed the species at 180 metres down off the Comoro Islands.

The expedition leader, marine biologist Hans Fricke, described the sightings earlier this month as the fulfilment of an underwater challenge comparable to the discovery of the sunken wreck of the Titanic.

"They are tremendously rare. We travelled many, many miles in the submersible and we found only two. Because they live so deep down, past expeditions have failed," Fricke told Reuters in an interview at the institute.

"The fish is a living fossil," he said. "It has tremendous importance for evolutionary biology and

to see how it lives and moves in its natural environment was a missing link."

All previous study has been from fossils and dead fish caught on lines.

The greyish-green, white-spotted coelacanth measures up to two metres in length and weighs up to 100 kilos. It has fluorescent cat-like eyes and moves so slowly "you could fall asleep watching it," Fricke said.

Its front fins have a limb-like structure, supporting theories that four-legged mammals, and ultimately man, may have evolved from a now-extinct branch of the species, he added.

Fricke is trying to raise \$25,000 to return to the Comoros on a second expedition next month to attempt to assess the size of the coelacanth colony.

He said he feared the fish, nature's greatest survivor, could be on the verge of extinction and wanted it officially declared an endangered species.

Fricke's four-man team included two other West Germans and a French oceanographer, Raphael Plante of the University of Marseille, and was aided by a British-crewed support vessel.

The two fish sighted were off the main island of Grand Comoro in warm, dark waters where the submarine landscape is a mass of lava caverns and cliffs.

"They seemed to hover almost immobile, slowly waving their fins. But when one of them was scared by the lights of our submersible it panicked, ran into us

and lost some of its scales before shooting off," Fricke said.

The sensational discovery that the coelacanth had stood the test of evolution was made in 1938 by South African professor James Smith, called in to identify what a fisherman off the port of East London thought was a monster from the deep.

Until then, all the world of science knew about the species came from fossilised remains at least 60 million years old.

Smith's coelacanth died within hours as a result of the force of decompression as it was hauled to the surface.

Smith discovered another fish 14 years later in the Comoro Islands, where Fricke says local fishermen occasionally find them hooked to the end of their lines.

All die quickly from decompression and though not eaten, their tough, sandpaper-like scales are used by locals as an abrasive.

Fricke said Smith's initial discovery was probably of a stray and that the coelacanth's exclusive habitat appeared to be the Comoros, though why was still an enigma.

He said he hoped to establish whether fish caught by accident could survive if returned immediately to the ocean, giving the species a helping hand to ward off extinction.

"I do have permission from the Comoran government to transport two abroad but they are so rare I don't see why they should end up in an aquarium. I'd hate that," he said.

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# Conner sweeps America's Cup final

FREMANTLE, Australia (AP) — Dennis Conner is a winner again. The cup is America's again.

Driven by his America's Cup loss in 1983, Conner drove Stars and Stripes to a crowning victory Wednesday and recaptured the aud mng from down under.

The man hailed as the world's top 12-metre skipper won the sailing world's top prize with a 1 minute, 59-second victory over Australia's Kookaburra III.

It gave the U.S. yacht a 4-0 sweep of the best-of-seven final series. And it gave Conner a more positive slant in boating's history books than the one he received after the cup loss to Australia II, when he was skipper of Liberty in Newport, Rhode Island.

"It's great. The sailing conditions were fantastic," Conner said while still aboard his boat. Said losing skipper Ian Murray: "He just had a bit more (speed) than we had. The boat just hasn't got what he's got, and that's it. We thought we were sailing better than we've ever sailed before."

Referring to his crew, Murray, 28, sailing in his first America's Cup series, said: "I think they realise they've been beaten by a better boat and a better team on this occasion, and they accept that."

"We're very happy. We're disappointed but happy," he said.

After becoming the only U.S. skipper to lose the trophy that had been America's for 132 years, Conner set about redeeming himself with a \$20 million campaign that produced three new boats. It all paid off.

Wednesday's victory margin was the largest of the series against Kookaburra III and set off a raucous return to the dock, as scores of spectator boats accompanied Stars and Stripes.

Thousands of people lined the harbour front on the sunny summer afternoon to greet the winners, some waving large American flags. Conner's crew — wearing red, white and blue — waved to the cheering throngs and popped huge bottles of champagne.

Stars and Stripes entered the harbour with a huge spinnaker flying; Kookaburra III sailed in behind it.

It was the first sweep by an America's Cup skipper since Ted Turner steered Courageous past Australia in 1977.

The San Diego Yacht Club skipper, who won the cup aboard Freedom in 1980, has said a committee will be set up to decide whether the next defence will be held in southern California or elsewhere. The next series is expected to be held in 1990.

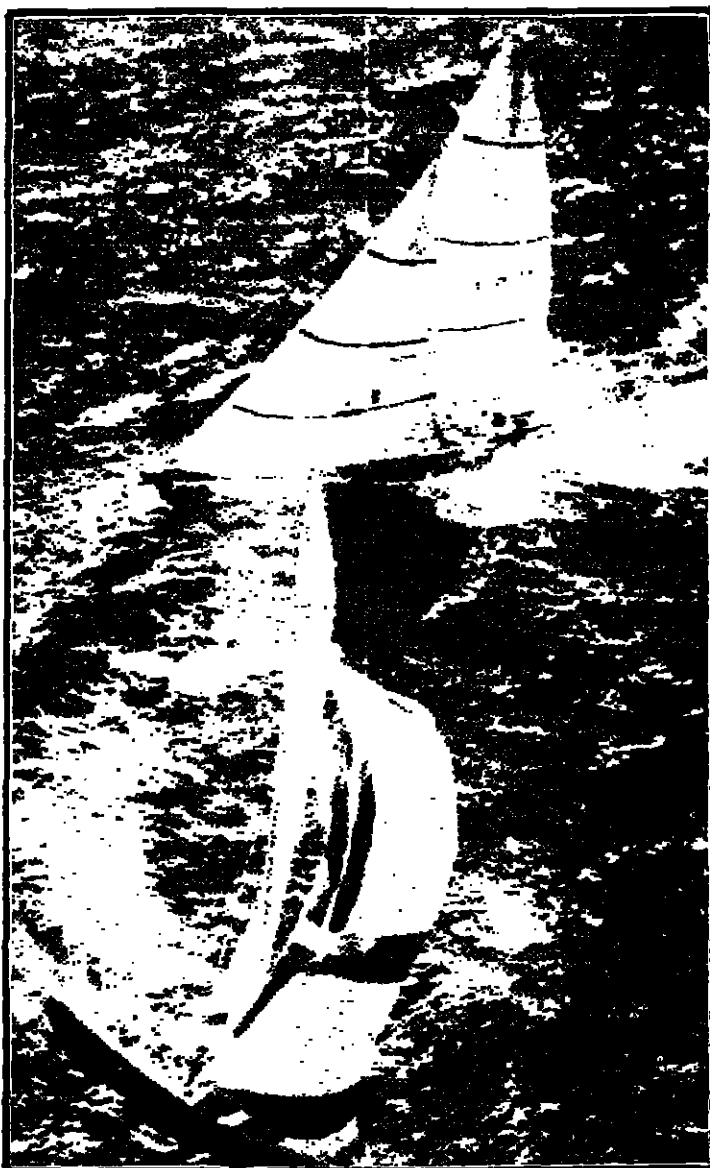
Either way, the San Diego club is only the third yacht club to claim the cup in the long history of the race.

The New York Yacht Club held it until 1983, when John Bertrand of the Royal Perth Yacht Club won the trophy aboard Australia II, beating Conner in seven races.

Stars and Stripes was among four boats to reach the challenger's semifinals from an original field of 13. Since then, it won 12 of 13 races, losing only to New Zealand in the third race of the challenger finals.

In Wednesday's race, the winds were from the southwest at 16 to 20 knots, close to the strong breeze that Stars and Stripes preferred. Murray was hoping for a lighter breeze.

Through six of the eight legs, the race was the closest of the final series, but at no point did



America's Cup winner, Stars and Stripes (lower yacht), skippered by Dennis Conner, raises its spinnaker as it rounds the first mark 15 seconds ahead of the Australian defender, Kookaburra III, in third race action on Monday. Stars and Stripes won the fourth and decisive race on Wednesday to take the America's Cup back to the U.S.

Kookaburra III threatened to go in every mark throughout the four races.

## Corporate promotions key to America's Cup

By Sid Moody  
The Associated Press

FREMANTLE, Australia — The America's Cup floats on an ocean stirred by corporate promotion and publicity.

It has to. Money is the real wind that makes cup 12-metre yachts go, and corporations are where the money is. And when corporations give money, they want the world to know where it came from.

That's why the day is not far off when the sleek hulls and full-breasted spinnakers of cup yachts probably will have as many corporate logos as Boris Becker's tennis shirt.

The Americans, the nation that gave you P.T. Barnum, Madison Avenue and 30-spot commercials that sell politicians like hamburgers on a sesame seed bun, excel at hoopla.

But the Australians are showing the world they not only could win the cup. They know how to exploit it down to the last farthing.

"The day of the private syndicate with a couple of men putting up the money is over," said Graham Walker of Britain's White

Crusader, one of the eliminated challengers.

The boat originally was christened Crusader, another in the long line of cup yachts named for virtues like reliance or intrepid.

Then a Scotch distiller anted up some money, and, as in any proper marriage, gave part of its name to its betrothed. Hence White Crusader. The other part of the company, A Horse, stands in statue form atop the boat's dock hoist.

Harold Cudmore, White Crusader's skipper who now is selling his services as a television commentator for the cup races, predicts the 12-metres will have to race yearly like Grand Prix race cars.

Twelves are a development yacht class. Development, or improvement, costs millions.

Alan Bond, the man who won the cup for Australia, says a next campaign will cost \$25 million.

"It will be too big for individuals," said the man who was eliminated Jan. 20 the day he paid \$1.2 billion for a communications empire. "It's as simple as that. We have lots of good sponsors, but it is becoming too big for them as well."

Bond would like government to help foot the bills since western Australia is estimated to see 14,000 jobs and \$400 million in revenues result from the races in Fremantle.

"There will be pressure to run races on an annual basis for the benefit of sponsors," Cudmore said. Television also may get its feet wet in cup racing. TV has money, too.

With minicameras bringing the action directly from the cockpit while the race actually is going on, cup racing, often likened to watching paint dry, actually can be exciting.

There was high drama when Stars and Stripes, the American Cup challenger, shredded her jib while racing New Zealand. Suddenly the crew raced forward, leaving skipper Dennis Conner at the wheel alone in the picture.

The mike picked up the tension as he issued taut instructions. Spectators used to have to watch the cup yachts from their own boats or pay through the sunburned nose for a position at the rail of a lurching charter vessel. Television brings the beauty of the sailboats right before your eyes.

Television, of course, lives on advertising, which will put further commercial pressure on the cup.

Recognising this, the international yacht racing union is relaxing its rule that forbids advertising on yachts.

Stars and Stripes built three twelves, and Conner trained for three years to get back the trophy he lost in 1983. Malin Burnham, head of the syndicate, says expenses to race in Fremantle are running \$20,000 a day.

Twice he has called in the media to ask Americans back home to send money, the usual request of an overseas traveller. A soft drink firm and a brewer complied. As a result they are the "official" cola and beer for Stars and Stripes.

They get their logos plastered all over Stars and Stripes' compound and the crew as well, even though Conner was photographed quaffing a rival cola the morning the other soft drink firm came on board.

Scarcely had the cup been unbolted from its pedestal at the New York Yacht Club to come down under than its new owners, the Royal Perth Yacht Club, copyrighted the trophy.

With the advice of the American International Management Group, which markets celebrities and sports stars, Royal Perth began selling cup rights.

## SPORTS IN BRIEF

### Rebel American oarsmen dropped

HENLEY-ON-THAMES, England (AP) — Four rebel American oarsmen, who have been protesting over squad selection, were dropped Wednesday from the Oxford University crew for this year's boat race against Cambridge, when they failed to turn up for training. The Americans, who have been protesting about the exclusion of one of their countrymen, did not join the rest of the team at a routine training session and team officials said they would be left off the roster for the March 28 showdown along part of the River Thames. The four Americans, oarsmen Dan Lyons, Chris Huntington, Chris Penny, and Coxswain John Fish have been protesting over the exclusion of team-mate Chris Clark. They maintain that Clark was made a scapegoat for last year's defeat, which followed ten consecutive Oxford victories in the annual race.

### Southampton downs Coventry

LONDON (AP) — Two goals by Glenn Cockerill gave Southampton a 2-0 victory over Coventry City Tuesday to lift the south coast side away from the relegation danger area in the English soccer standings. In F.A. (Football Association) Cup action, Ian Baird bagged a 56th minute winner for Leeds United to send the Second Division team into the fifth round on the back of a 2-1 scoreline at Third Division Swindon Town. Hull City, also from Division Two, triumphed 1-0 at Fourth Division Swansea City and, in a replay, another Second Division side, Barnsley, whipped Fourth Division Aldershot 3-0 to claim a fifth round match against the current league leader Arsenal.

### Noah advances in Lyon tennis

LYON, France (AP) — France's top-seeded Yannick Noah comfortably won his first-round match while his sixth-seeded compatriot Tarik Benhabiles lost in the \$174,000 Lyon Grand Prix tennis tournament Tuesday. Noah defeated Claudio Panatta of Italy, 6-1, 6-3. Sweden's Peter Lundgren, ranked just 99 in the world, dund Benhabiles, 6-7 (5-7), 6-4, 6-3. Fourth-seeded Guy Forget of France went through to the second round when Claudio Mezzadri of Switzerland retired because of fatigue when Forget was leading 6-1, 1-0. Second-seeded Joakim Nyström of Sweden eliminated France's Thierry Champion, 6-0, 6-4 and eighth-seeded Libor Pimek of Czechoslovakia beat Switzerland's Roland Stadler, 6-2, 6-2.

### Brazilian soccer star jumps to death

RIO DE JANEIRO, Brazil (AP) — Veteran soccer star Carlos Jose Castillo died Monday after throwing himself from his luxury apartment in a Rio suburb, according to news reports. He was 59 years old. Castillo threw himself from the 6th floor of his apartment, the Jornal Do Brasil radio said. The radio station quoted neighbours as saying Castillo had been acting "nervously" recently and had appeared depressed. Castillo was goalkeeper for Brazil's 1987 World Cup championship squad and former goalie for Rio's Fluminense soccer club. He had been coaching a soccer team in Saudi Arabia for the past year and was in Brazil on a two-month holiday, sports analyst Jose Fausto Netto told the Associated Press. The veteran star was to return to Saudi Arabia on Wednesday. Castillo played with Fluminense from 1948 to 1966 and participated in successive World Cup tournaments from 1954 through 1966.

### Tottenham interested in Maradona

LONDON (R) — Tottenham manager David Pleat said his club might attempt to sign Argentine World Cup captain Diego Maradona if "a clever financial exercise" could be worked out. Maradona, who cost his present club Napoli a world record \$7.5 million when he bought him from Barcelona in 1984, said last month that he would like to play in England before returning to Argentina to finish his playing career. Pleat, in a newspaper interview, said: "I had always dismissed the idea as an impossible dream, but not any more. 'I had read Maradona had warmth in his heart for English football, and for Tottenham in particular. I thought no more of it, but I've since learned it is fact.'"

### Romanian swimmers steal show

EAST BERLIN (R) — East Germany's powerful women swimmers were in fine form at a 20-nation meeting in East Berlin, but Romanian teenagers Noemi Lung and Tamara Costache stole the show with superb wins over 400 metres individual medley and 50 metres freestyle respectively. Lung, who set a world-best mark for the distance in Paris on Saturday, led throughout and surged home in four minutes 40.97 seconds on Tuesday night. Yelena Denderova of the Soviet Union came second, but her time of 4:49.87 showed the difference in class. Costache, who also improved her own world-best 50 metres time in Paris, clocked 25.74 to win from East Germans Kristin Otto and Katrin Meissner.

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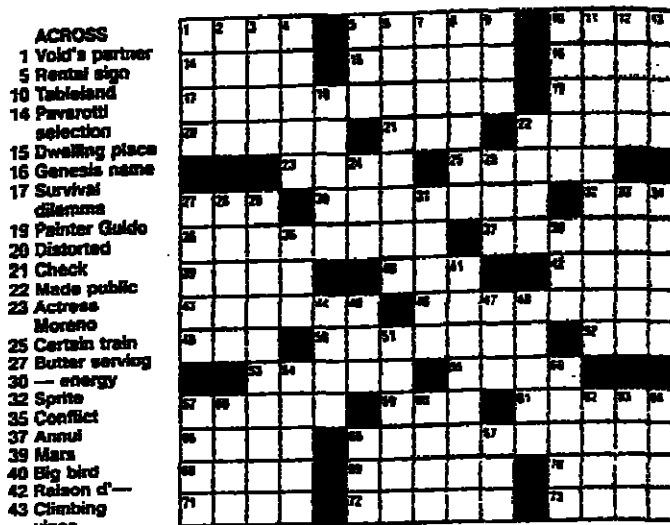
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## THE Daily Crossword by Samuel K. Pfeiffer



YESTERDAY'S PUZZLE SOLVED:

Across: 1. Vold's partner; 5. Rental sign; 10. Tableland; 14. Fearful selection; 15. Dwellings place; 16. Genesis name; 17. Survival; 18. Painter Guido; 20. Distorted; 21. Check; 22. Made public; 23. Actor; 24. Monaco; 25. Certain train; 27. Butter serving; 30. Energy; 32. Spite; 35. Conflict; 37. Annul; 39. Mars; 40. Big bird; 42. Reason d'; 43. Climbing vines.

Down: 2. Space acronym; 3. "Emilia" author; 4. Concession; 6. Hindrance; 7. Indian quail; 8. Fit for food; 9. Pro —; 10. "West Side Story" heroine; 11. Famed English Channel; 12. Rational; 13. Surrounded by; 14. Post; 22. Far port; 24. Barge hauler; 26. Scull; 27. Sacred song; 28. Roman courts; 29. Way to stay effect; 31. Nocturnal mammal; 33. At — (free); 34. Armada; 36. Mill, hearse; 38. — capits; 41. Rare; 44. — time (never); 46. — time (never); 47. Andrew —; 48. Sarto; 49. Oleoresin; 51. Nocturnal insect; 54. Revises; 55. Hopeless case; 57. Crested bird; 58. Not on time; 60. Eldest Fr.; 62. Eskimo house; 63. Thick slice; 64. Newcastle's river; 66. Wise to a; 67. "A-Team" name.

## Pakistani skipper scores century against India

MADRAS, India (AP) — Skipper Imran Khan led Pakistan's batting revival with a splendid unbeaten century as the visitors took control of the first cricket test against India here Wednesday.

Pakistan's last three wickets added 214 runs before Imran Khan declared the first innings closed at an imposing 487 for nine, some 30 minutes before the draw of stumps.

Imran, who himself remained unbeaten on 135, his third test century and second against India, displayed the batting prowess that has made him one of the game's top all rounders.

Pakistan, after resuming with the overnight score of 247 for five seemed heading for trouble when the Indian spinners downed seven wickets for 273 on a wicket which is progressively deteriorating.

But Imran guided his last three batsmen, Wasim Akram, Saleem

Yusuf and Tauseef Ahmed to see Pakistan reach a position from where only a dramatic turnaround can bring India victory.

Akram, who made 62 with five sixes and six boundaries shared a rollicking 112-run stand in 122 minutes for the eighth wicket with his skipper.

The stand was Pakistan's best for the eighth wicket against India, surpassing Wasim Raja and Tahir Naqqash's 95 at Jullunder in 1983.

The Indian bowling, which looked good until Imran and Akram came together, wilted when the Pakistani skipper took charge at the fall of Akram's wicket.

Runs came in a torrent as Imran blasted five sixes, the first of which landed a few feet behind the Indian selectors sitting in the VIP enclosure of the pavilion, while the fifth struck the giant scoreboard.

## Pinango retains title by halting Duarte's comeback

INGLEWOOD, California (AP) — Champion Bernardo Pinango of Venezuela halted Frankie Duarte's three-year comeback short of its goal Tuesday night winning a unanimous decision in their 15-round World Boxing Association bantamweight championship bout.

Duarte, 32, had been aiming for a world title since resuming his career three years ago after a self-imposed, five-year absence from the ring because of drug abuse and alcoholism.

Pinango dominated most of the fight by outboxing his more experienced opponent. However, Duarte had the champion in trouble on several occasions.

Early in the 12th round,

Duarte floored Pinango with a right hand, but the champion was up after taking a mandatory eight-count. Duarte continued to punish his opponent for the rest of the round, but was unable to finish him off.

Duarte, of the United States, had buckled the champion's knees in the 10th round with a right hand.

The challenger also controlled the action in the third round, but suffered a cut in his left eyelid on an unintentional head butt.

Pinango assumed command during the fight's middle rounds, using an in-and-out style that kept Duarte from getting inside and allowed the champion to score with jabs and combinations.

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**THE HILLS HAVE EYES**  
Performances 3.15, 6.30, 8.30, 10.30

Cinema Tel: 675573  
**OPERA**  
**D.A.R.Y.L**  
Performances 3.30, 6.15, 8.30, 10.30

Cinema Tel: 677420  
**PLAZA**  
**TO LIVE AND DIE IN L.A.**  
Performances 3.30, 6.00, 8.30, 10.30

Cinema Tel: 622198  
**RAGHADAN**  
**POLICE STORY**  
Performances 12.15, 3.00, 5.00, 7.45



## LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Wednesday.

|                   |               |                   |
|-------------------|---------------|-------------------|
| One sterling      | 1.5215/25     | U.S. dollars      |
| One U.S. dollar   | 1.3312/7      | Canadian dollar   |
|                   | 1.8115/25     | West German marks |
|                   | 2.0425/35     | Dutch guilders    |
|                   | 1.5290/5300   | Swiss francs      |
|                   | 37.53/58      | Belgian francs    |
|                   | 6.0385/0435   | French francs     |
|                   | 1290/1291     | Italian lire      |
|                   | 152.60/70     | Japanese yen      |
|                   | 6.4850/4900   | Swedish crowns    |
|                   | 6.9750/9800   | Norwegian crowns  |
|                   | 6.8500/50     | Danish crowns     |
| One ounce of gold | 402.10/402.60 | U.S. dollars      |

## LONDON STOCK MARKET

LONDON (R) — Shares held on to earlier gains to trade at around record levels in late business. Dealers said fresh buying interest, particularly in international shares after a firming in the dollar, was pushing prices up.

By 1549 GMT, the FTSE 100 index was trading at a peak of 1,843.6, 15.1 points above Tuesday's closing and well above the closing high of 1,832.8 reached on Monday.

A 64p jump in ICI shares to 1,380 was partly responsible for pushing the index higher. Dealers said the shares responded to a broker's upgrading of its 1988 profits forecast, with investors anxious not to be underweighted in the shares.

Brokers Greenwell Montagu said they upgraded their forecast for 1988 profits at ICI by around £100 million to £1.5 billion. Other chemicals and pharmaceuticals were steady, with Glaxo off 5p to 1,353, on profit-taking after its recent gains and Wellcome 6p higher at 289 on speculation its AIDS treatment drug will prove successful in the market, dealers said.

Merchant bank shares were depressed by proposals to give the Bank of England a greater influence over shareholdings in U.K. banks.

## YOUR DAILY Horoscope

from the Carroll Righter Institute

## FORECAST FOR THURSDAY, FEB. 5, 1987

**GENERAL TENDENCIES:** Today it is up to you to get into whatever new arrangements you wish to make where the practical side of life is concerned. Be objective and cheerful.

**ARIES** (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Be alert to the best way in which you can get rid of a monetary worry. Don't listen to self-seeking people.

**TAURUS** (Apr. 20 to May 20) You have a partner who is trying to force you into doing something you don't approve of, so be leery.

**GEMINI** (May 21 to June 21) Consider well how best to handle your duties so that you do not get yourself in a bind.

**MOON CHILDREN** (June 22 to Jul. 21) An argument between your friend and your mate could upset you, but kind words stop it quickly.

**LEO** (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) Schedule your time well so that you can handle both business and family affairs. Be sure your car is running well.

**VIRGO** (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) You have good ideas, but this is not the right time to put them in operation. Get to know new acquaintances.

**LIBRA** (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Wait awhile before you try to make a financial deal with another. Losing your temper would not be wise.

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Be more cooperative with a partner whose views are as fixed as your own and reach an understanding.

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Do not permit a secret worry to take you away from your regular duties today.

**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Be sure to do what your mate desires of you. Don't go off on a tangent with some friends.

**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) You should be more home oriented today, even if you have to be in the outside world.

**PISCES** (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Get your responsibilities completed nicely. Go over any bills or statements that are important.

**IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY** ... he or she will think and rethink things over before reaching a decision and should be taught to stop deliberating so much, otherwise others less capable can run away with the prize, as it were. Teach to listen to the ideas of others and not to be too self-centered.

## FORECAST FOR FRIDAY, FEB. 6, 1987

**GENERAL TENDENCIES:** Today finds it necessary for you to use special care in understanding all the practical aspects of whatever comes to your attention. Be reasonable and intelligent.

**ARIES** (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Go over every aspect of your practical affairs. Be with creative individuals who can be of assistance.

**TAURUS** (Apr. 20 to May 20) You can gain what you desire in various ways. Consider them well but don't take any action yet.

**GEMINI** (May 21 to June 21) You may find it hard to gain your intimate aims at this time, so map out a plan for future use.

**MOON CHILDREN** (June 22 to Jul. 21) Steer clear of the individuals who waste your time or cause you to spend too much money.

**LEO** (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) Put aside civic duties for a while since you have other important duties to perform. Show your ethical side today.

**VIRGO** (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Study those new ideas well before you put them in operation. Be most careful while walking or driving.

**LIBRA** (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Plan how to handle promises you have made in a most quiet and sure manner, otherwise trouble could ensue.

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Outside associates could try to trap you into following a course you do not like, so be careful.

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) If you plan your time carefully you can get much accomplished, especially at the office.

**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Be sure you count the cost of some amusement before you partake in the festivities.

**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) You have to be more cooperative at home if you are to avoid friction there. Be with persons you trust tonight.

**PISCES** (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Be careful when communicating with others or there can be much trouble. Try not to lose your temper.

**IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY** ... he or she will be very magnetic but will also have prejudiced ideas that should be discouraged, otherwise little accord can be gained with others. Be sure to give as fine an education as you can afford and add psychology courses so that your progeny will understand others.

## Jordan's imports decline sharply in November

AMMAN (J.T.) — Jordan's imports of foreign products dropped in November 1986 by 15 per cent compared with the same month in 1985.

According to a statistical bulletin issued by the Department of Statistics, Jordan imported foreign products worth JD 60.2 million during November 1986 whereas imports in the same month of the previous year amounted to JD 70.8 million.

The bulletin said that the Kingdom's total imports of foreign goods between January and the end of November 1986 amounted to JD 764 million compared to JD 925 million during the same period of the previous year. The decrease represents a drop of 17.4 per cent.

The department's bulletin said the drop in imports of foreign-made products was bound to have a positive impact on Jordan's 1986 balance of trade and, eventually, on the Kingdom's balance of payments.

According to the bulletin, Jordan's national exports during November 1986 amounted to JD 15.9 million, up from JD 15.1 million posted during the same month of 1985.

Meanwhile, the most recent monthly statistical bulletin issued by the Central Bank of Jordan for the month of November 1986, stated that imports of foreign goods amounted to JD 75.6 million during the month of September 1986. During September 1985 imports amounted to JD 100 million.

Imports of food and live animals amounted to JD 20.3 million during September while beverages and tobacco accounted for JD 416,000 of the import bill.

Other imports were JD 1.9 million worth of inedible crude materials (except fuels), JD 10.3 million of mineral fuels, lubricants and related minerals, JD 1.2 million of animal and vegetable oil and fats, JD 4.9 million of chemicals and JD 10.7 million of rubber products, iron and steel, paper and cardboard and textile yarn, fabrics and other made up articles and related products.

The highest import figure was for electrical and non-electrical machinery and transport equipments and spare parts — all amounting to JD 17 million.

## IMF to close S. Korea office

SEOUL (AP) — The International Monetary Fund (IMF) has decided to close its representative office in Seoul after 20 years of operation, according to an announcement from the office Wednesday. The announcement said the IMF, which is based in Washington, decided on the closing to save funds. It also said the office's advisory service is no longer required in view of South Korea's effective management of its economy and sizeable current account surplus in 1986. The representative office has counseled South Korea on the country's foreign exchange and other economic policies in close coordination with IMF policies.

# U.S. urges West to build oil stocks

DAVOS, Switzerland (R) — U.S. Energy Secretary John Herrington urged the West Wednesday to build strategic oil stocks and take other measures to protect future supplies.

As low oil prices in the current glut encouraged a rebound in consumption, he said, there were prospects that industrial nations would again depend too heavily on supplies from the Gulf under the control of the OPEC (Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries).

"Today's oil market has clearly shown that programmes to protect our economies in times of disruptions need to be continued in earnest," he told bankers, businessmen and government officials attending an economic symposium here.

"We simply must have significant strategic stocks," he said. "We should continue to encourage alternative transportation routes out of the Gulf so that the Strait of Hormuz does not become an all-or-nothing proposition for moving the world's oil supplies," he added.

He said it was vital to encourage oil exploration outside the Gulf to avoid over-reliance on oil from OPEC.

Forecasts showed that, by the 1990s, the Gulf could supply half of world oil. "That is virtually the same situation we faced in 1979 — a time when market manipulations tripled the price of oil and helped throw the world economy into recession."

"The same forces that tried to push the world's energy-consuming nations into an era of limits

and economic dependence are at work again today," he said.

The American Petroleum Institute (API) President Charles Dibona also urged the U.S. government to take measures to guard against another oil price shock.

Mr. Dibona said that the fall in oil prices last year, from around \$30 a barrel to less than \$20 now, might mean higher oil demand and increased dependence on imports.

"And, of course, these factors can impose military and foreign policy burdens. The question is, will (importers) understand the danger and act soon enough?"

Mr. Dibona said 1986 saw a reversal of an eight-year decline in U.S. reliance on imports.

The current president of OPEC, Nigerian Oil Minister Rilwanu Lukman, who is also at the Davos symposium, said that present disruptions caused by the Iran-Iraq war meant that OPEC was actually pumping less oil than the 15.8 million barrels daily stipulated in its latest agreement.

Most OPEC members were honouring their assigned quotas under the agreement, designed to curb output and thus underpin a price at \$18 a barrel in the present glut, he said.

Mr. Lukman said OPEC did not want to drive prices too high, which would make it hard for oil to compete with other energy

sources. "Prices should be competitive so that oil does not get driven out of the market," he said.

Mr. Lukman also said OPEC income was being shaved at present because of the weakness of the dollar, in which oil prices are set, but no measures had been discussed yet to offset this.

He told a news conference: "Obviously if the dollar falls we get less income. But we don't want to change the price on a daily basis." A basket of currencies might be a solution.

Mr. Lukman said OPEC wanted to maintain the current price around \$18 for the rest of the year.

Indonesian Oil Minister Subroto called for a dialogue between oil producing and consuming states to ensure future supplies at prices that suited both sellers and buyers.

That would protect the global economy from disruptive price changes and political upheaval and would ease a transition away from oil as main energy source some time in the next century.

## S. Arabia keeps commitment

U.S. and Saudi Arabian officials said in Riyadh Wednesday that Saudi Arabia is sticking to its OPEC quota and is making a determined effort to foster stability in the oil market.

They pointed to efforts by Saudi Arabia, the world's biggest oil exporter, to get away from short-term contracts as evidence of its intention to restore price stability.

## Dubai to become major centre for East European airlines

DUBAI, United Arab Emirates (AP) — Dubai airport in the United Arab Emirates (UAE) is turning into a major station for East European airlines, civil aviation officials reported Tuesday.

Dubai, one of the seven emirates that make up the UAE federation, will shortly have a total of six routes to and from Eastern Europe, said the officials.

Dubai this week celebrated the inauguration of a new route to East Berlin, when the first Interflug airliner landed at the airport.

Officials said that Dubai's Civil Aviation Department has also agreed to open new routes this month for Bulgarian and Soviet airlines.

With the three new routes, six East European carriers will be operating in Dubai. The others are Czech, Hungarian and Yugoslav airlines.

The bustling major Gulf port was a link for East European flights even before the UAE established diplomatic ties with Moscow in November 1985.

## Largest Bahraini bank posts 7.6 per cent decline in profits

BAHRAIN (R) — Bahrain's largest commercial bank, National Bank of Bahrain (NBB), said Tuesday 1986 profits before provisions declined by 7.6 per cent to 11.36 million dinars (\$30.13 million).

NBB Chairman Ahmad Ali Kanoo gave no reasons for the drop but said in a statement that provisions for bad loans and investment valuations increased by about 64 per cent to 6.99 million dinars (\$18.54 million) in 1986.

He said he anticipated the region's economic recession would ease within the next two to three years but he stressed the bank would continue to exercise caution in its affairs.

The bank's total assets rose to 569 million dinars (\$1.5 billion) at the end of 1986 from 533 million dinars (\$1.4 billion) a year earlier because of a policy decision to expand activities in marketable securities and interbank activities, the statement said.

NBB during the next five years planned to invest in manpower and modern banking techniques to provide new products and services, its director general, Mr. Hassan Juma said. But results of this policy were not expected before mid-1988.

## Dollar firms

LONDON (R) — The dollar rose sharply on European foreign exchange Wednesday on improved U.S. economic indicators and gold dipped slightly on the U.S. currency's strength.

The dollar touched 1.8155 West German marks after closing Tuesday night at around 1.7975 while gold was fixed in London at \$401.75 an ounce after a previous fix of \$404.

Foreign exchange dealers said the dollar had been boosted by Tuesday's announcement of a 21 per cent rise in U.S. leading indicators in December — the biggest rise for four years, and better factory goods orders.

Other factors supporting the dollar were last week's news of a lower than expected U.S. trade deficit in December and fears that central banks might buy dollars to stave off strains in the European Monetary System, they said.

However dealers remained cautious about the higher levels and said the market was not fully convinced that the dollar was set for an upturn. It has fallen from 2.02 marks in mid December.

Friday's American unemployment figures might give further signs about the direction of the U.S. economy, dealers said.

They also noted uncertainty in the market about whether Washington would take steps to stabilise the dollar or whether it would try to push it even lower in another bid to cut its huge trade deficit.

## Insurance for ships sailing to Kuwait shoots up by 50%

LONDON (R) — Leading marine insurers Lloyds have increased the cost of insuring ships sailing to Kuwait by 50 per cent, bringing them in line with ship trading with Gulf war opponents Iran and Iraq, shipping brokers said.

The increase, agreed Tuesday, means that ship owners must now pay 0.375 per cent of the empty ship's value as a war premium, in addition to the standard insurance premium, for each 14-day visit to Kuwait, the brokers said.

The increase follows a sharp rise over the last few months in the number of attacks on ships serving Kuwait, which brokers believe were instigated by Iran, apparently because of Kuwait's support for Iraq in the conflict.

Meanwhile, a world shipping conference opening Thursday will strongly urge governments and maritime industries to combat recession by reducing the surplus shipping fleet, delegates said Wednesday.

The two-day meeting also will ask the United Nations to project commercial vessels sailing through the Gulf where several have been attacked in the continuing war between Iran and Iraq, they told Reuters.

Ms. Marie Pismenos, director of International Chamber of Commerce (ICC), said the organisation "is deeply concerned over the fact that freedom of the sea is

being denied to merchant ships using the Gulf waters."

The Paris-based ICC has sponsored the five-yearly conference in association with Lloyds.

The conference will be attended, by nearly 200 executives of government and private shipping companies, shippers, bankers, insurers and underwriters from 35 countries.

The conference would seek an accord to cut a huge surplus fleet capacity estimated at more than 40 million dead weight tonnage, Bruce Farthing, a British delegate said.

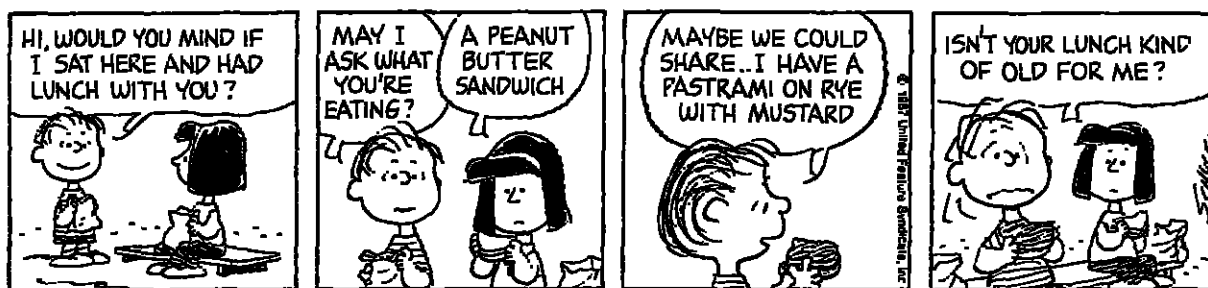
Shipyards in many countries were turning out too many ships because of cheap loans and other financial assistance provided by governments and banks, he added.

Heavy losses from a sharp fall in cargo support had forced shipping companies in Western Europe and elsewhere to close down their business in the past 10 years, the British delegate, noted.

Britain's merchant fleet had slumped to 16 million tonnes gross registered tonnage (GRT) in 1986 from 50 million tonnes GRT 10 years ago, he said.

"The conference will ask governments and banks to cut down their support for building new ships and instead buy surplus second-hand ships," he said.

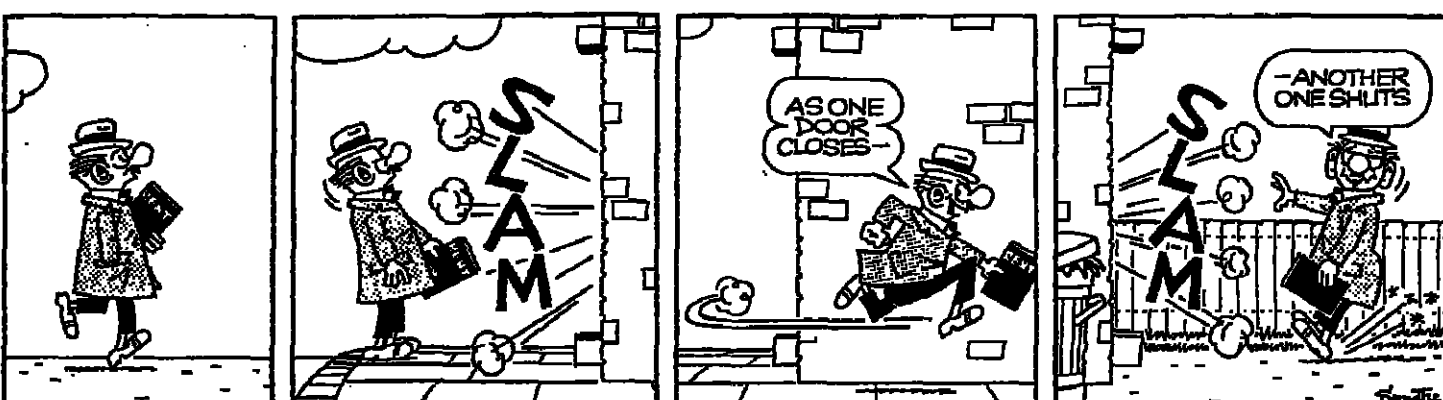
## Peanuts



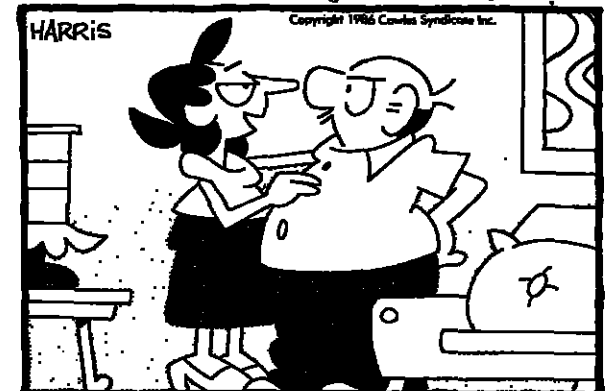
## Mutt'n' Jeff



## Andy Capp



## THE BETTER HALF



## JUMBLE

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

KLANSB

DUTIA

BEMFUL

SMOTED

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Print answer here: A

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: NOOSE COWER WOBBLE CASKET

Answer: What a name dropper is apt to do— BLOW HIS "KNOWS"



